



# GANESHA AND THE MOON

AND OTHER STORIES

Vol 830







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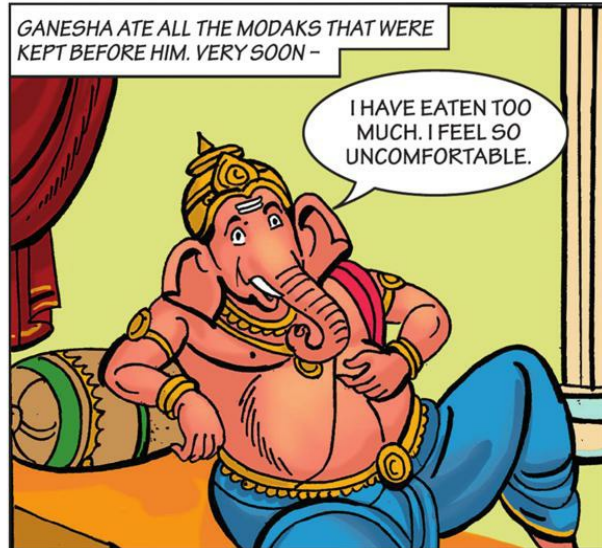
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# GANESHA AND THE MOON

ONCE ON HIS BIRTHDAY, GANESHA WAS INVITED TO CHANDRALOK, THE ABODE OF THE MOON, FOR A FEAST.



\*A SWEET DUMPLING FILLED WITH COCONUT AND JAGGERY

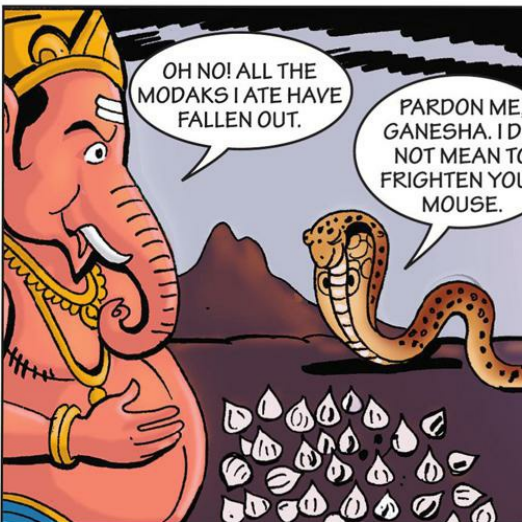
\*\* THE MOUSE IS GANESHA'S 'VAHANA' OR STEED



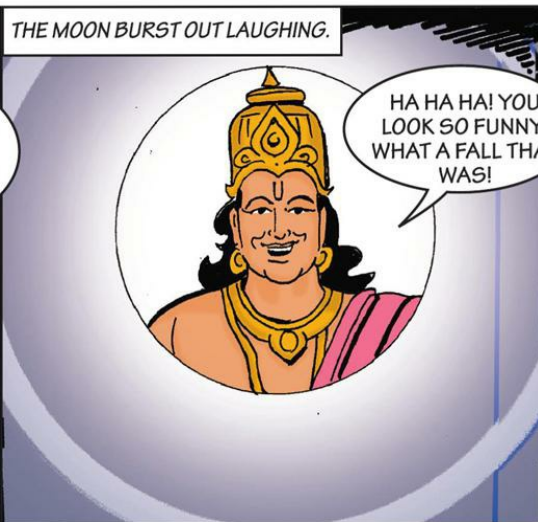
IT WAS A BEAUTIFUL NIGHT. THE MOON SHONE SO BRIGHTLY, IT WAS ALMOST LIKE DAY!



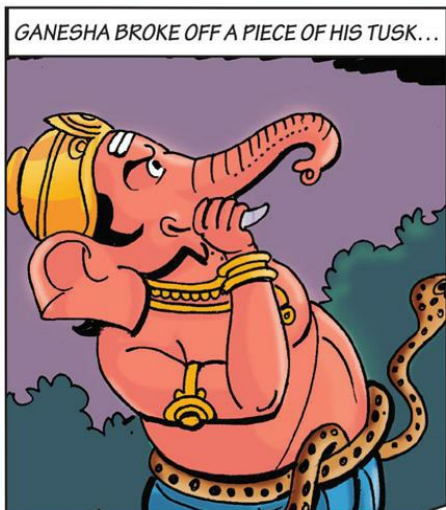
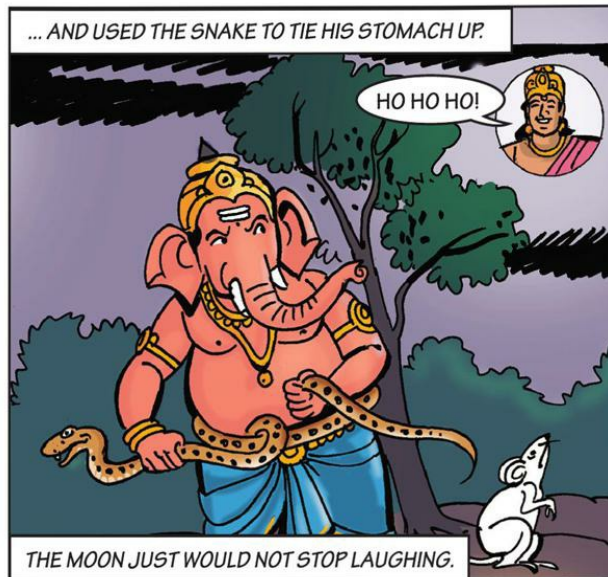
SUDDENLY -



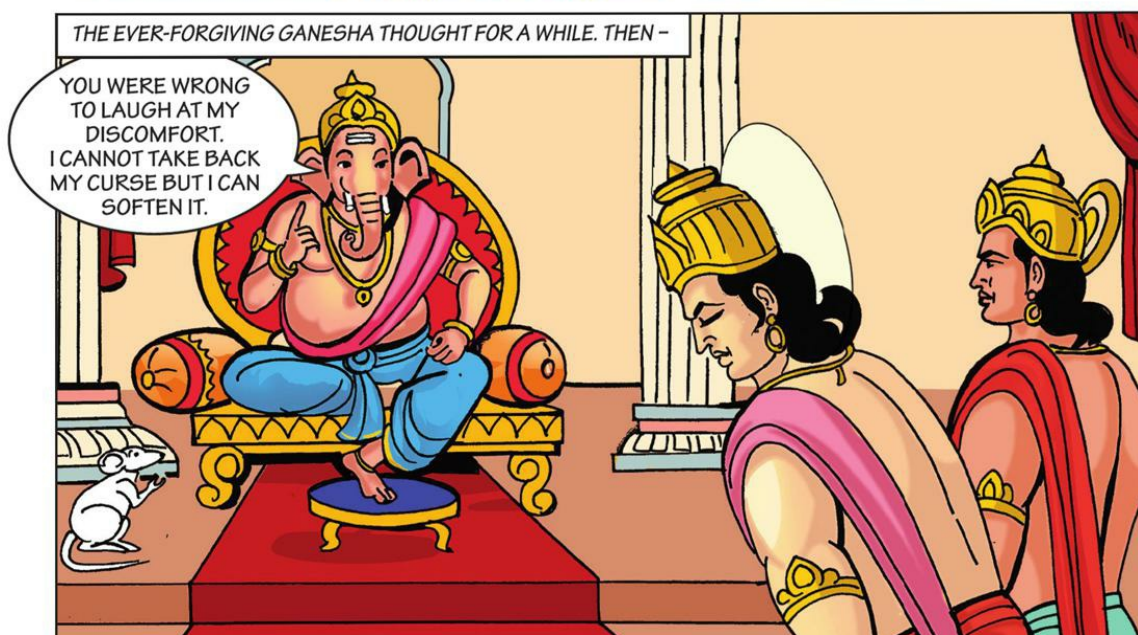
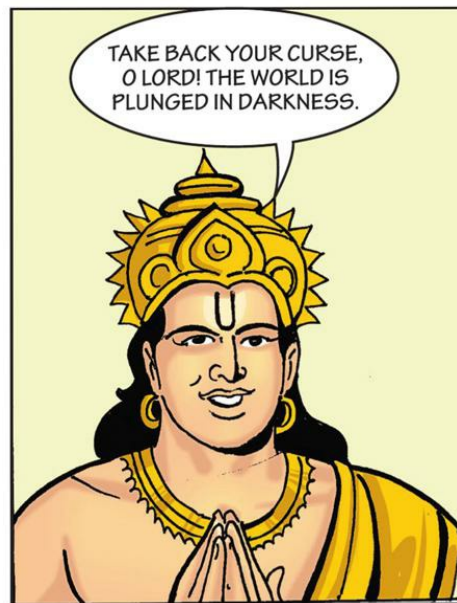
PARDON ME, GANESHA. I DID NOT MEAN TO FRIGHTEN YOUR MOUSE.



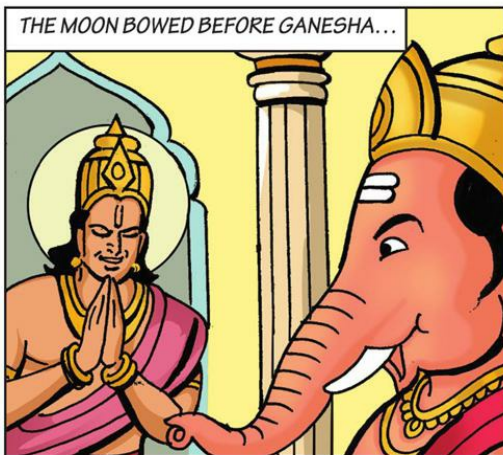
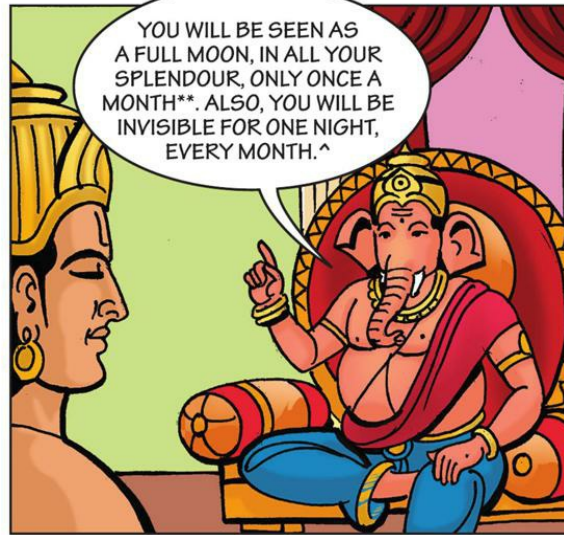
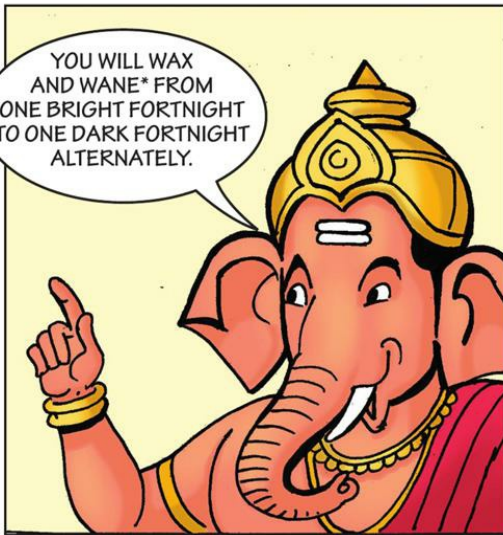
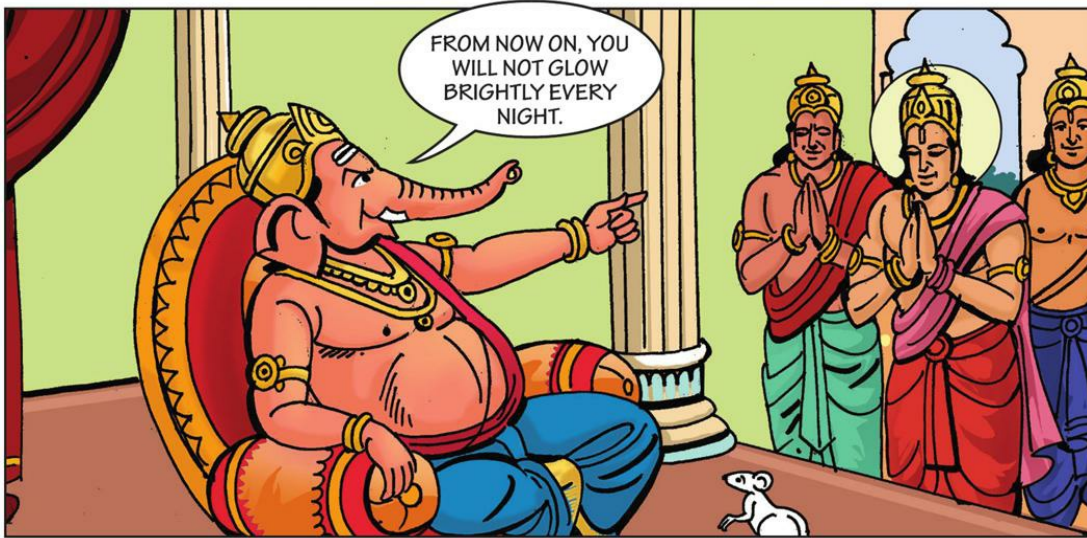












\*ALTERNATELY GROWING SMALLER AND LARGER

\*\*PURNIMA OR POURNAMI  
^AMAVASYA



## GANESHA AND RAVANA

RAVANA, THE DEMON KING OF LANKA, OBSERVED SEVERE PENANCE TO PLEASE SHIVA.



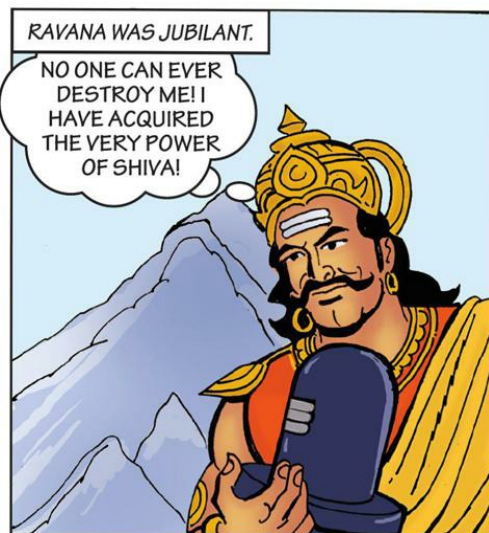
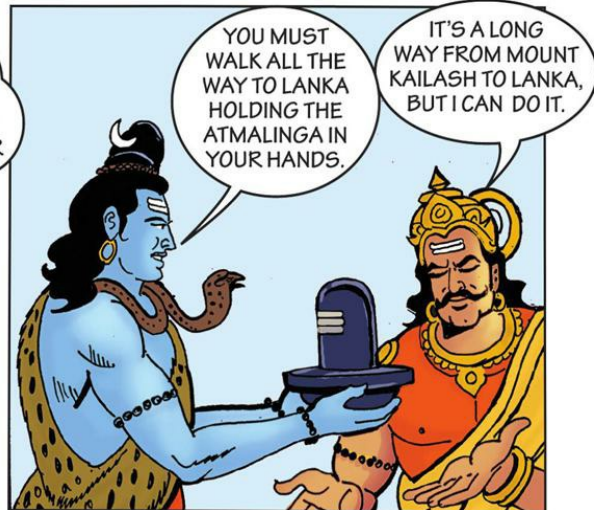
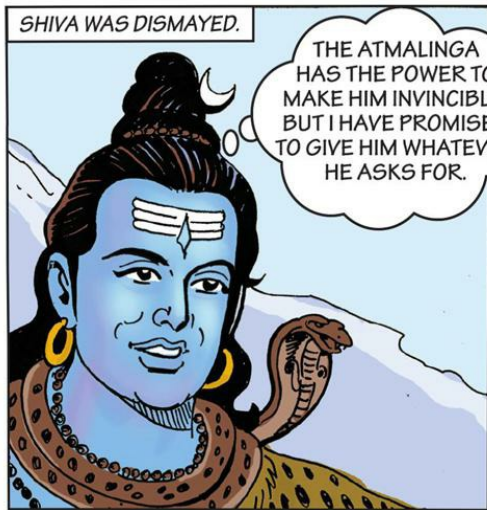
PLEASED WITH HIS AUSTERITIES, SHIVA APPEARED BEFORE HIM.



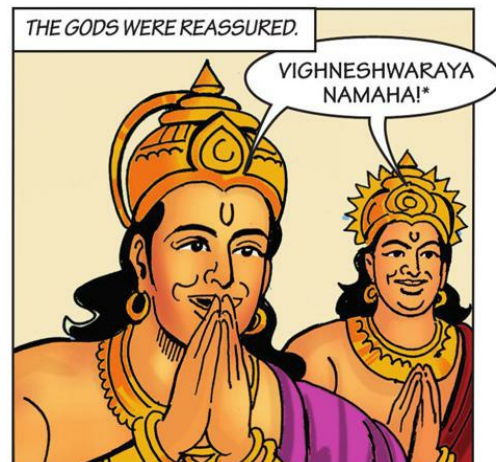
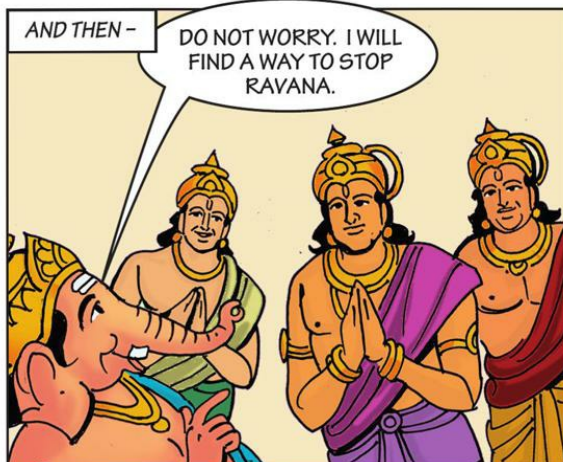
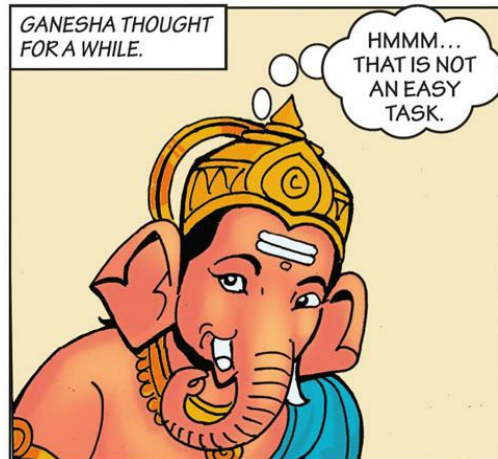
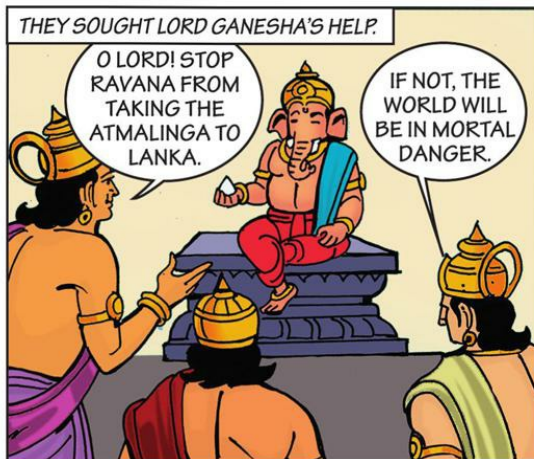
\* SALUTATIONS TO SHIVA

\*\* THE ATMALINGA IS A FORM IN WHICH SHIVA IS WORSHIPPED.



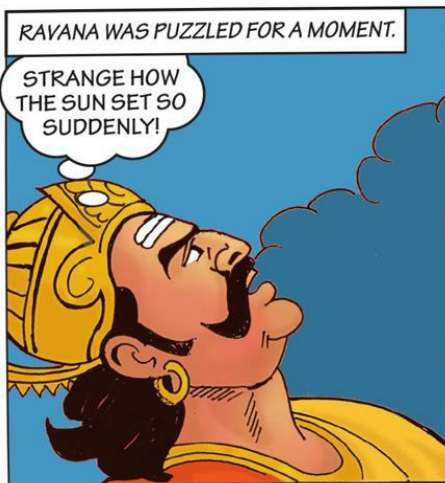
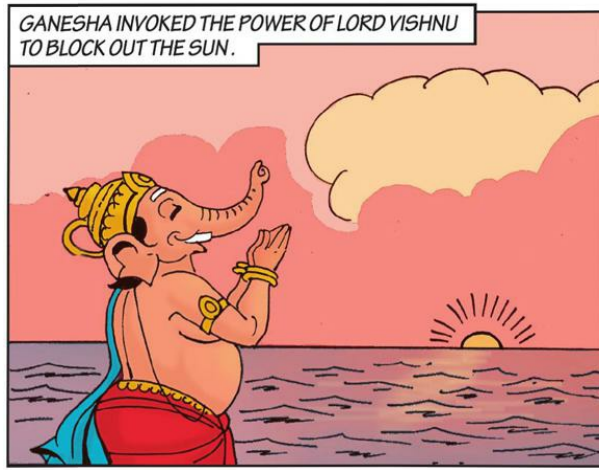
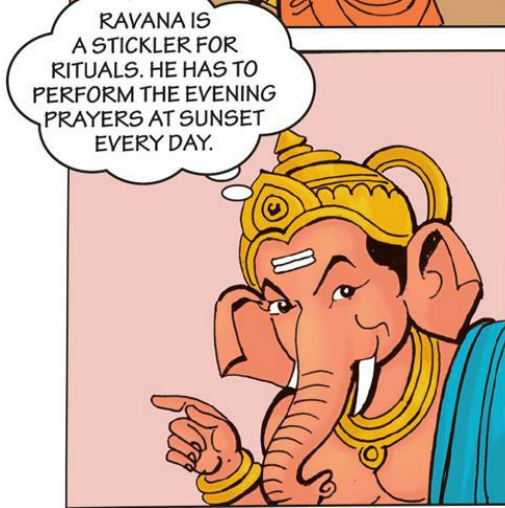
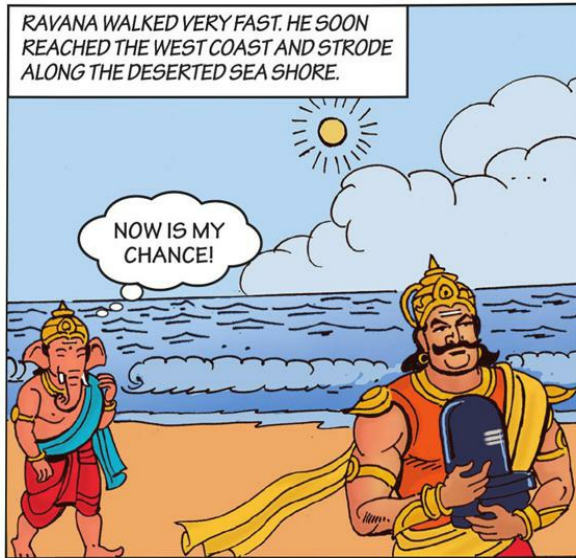
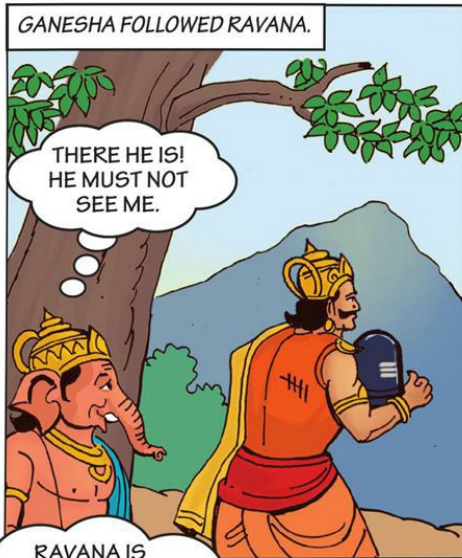




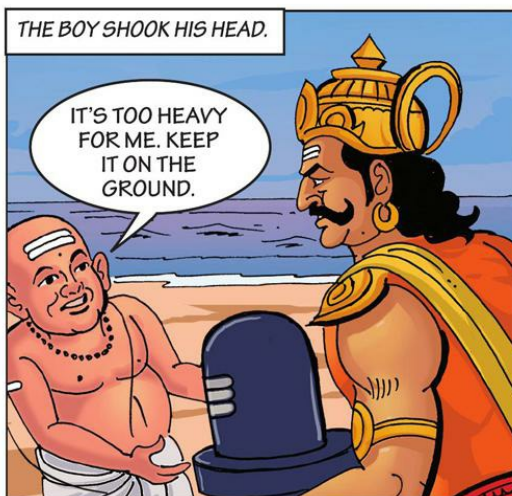
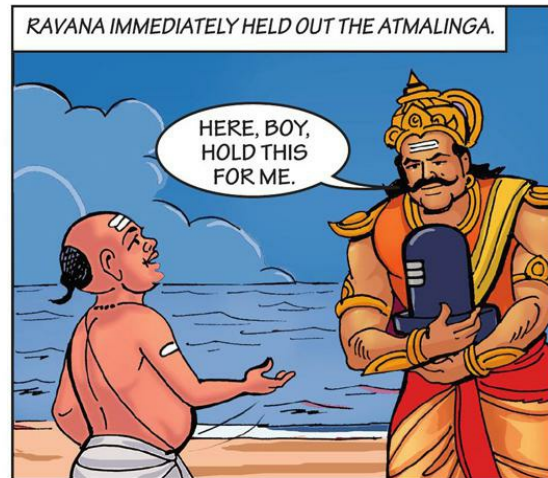
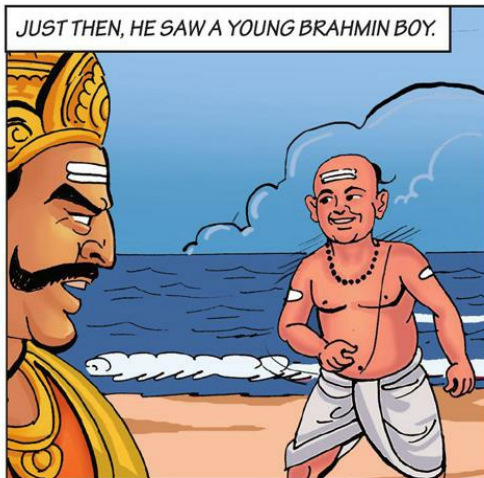
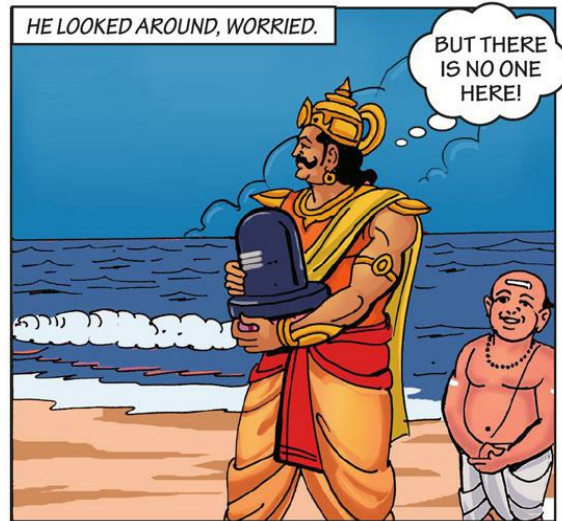
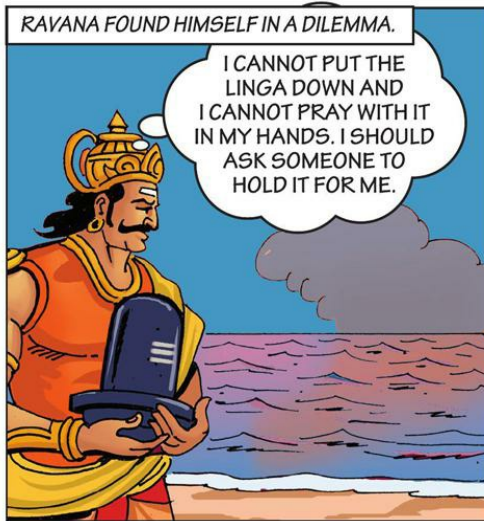


\* SALUTATIONS TO YOU, O VIGHNESHWARA  
VIGHNESHWARA - ONE WHO REMOVES OBSTACLES

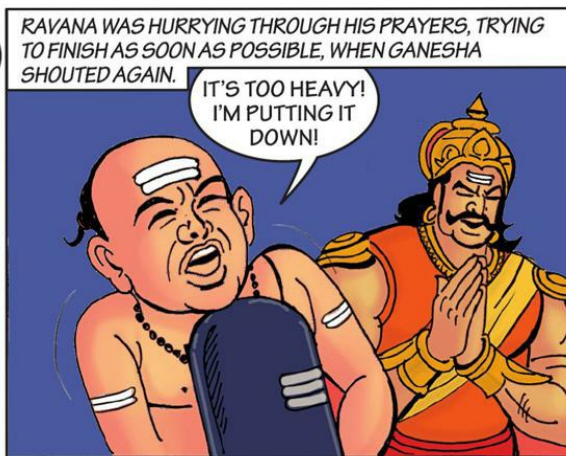
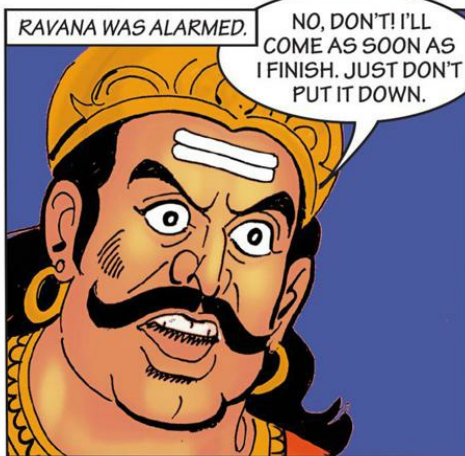
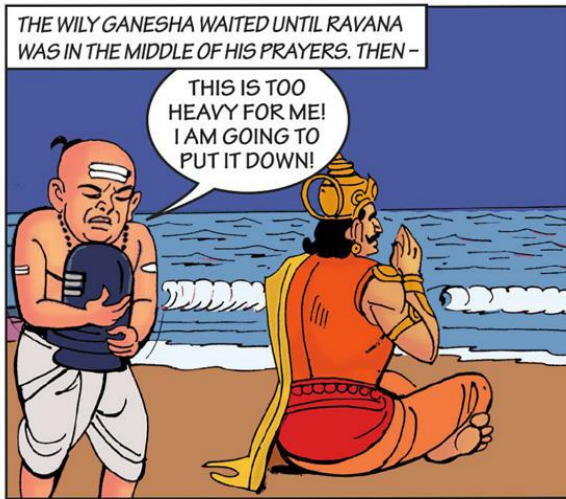
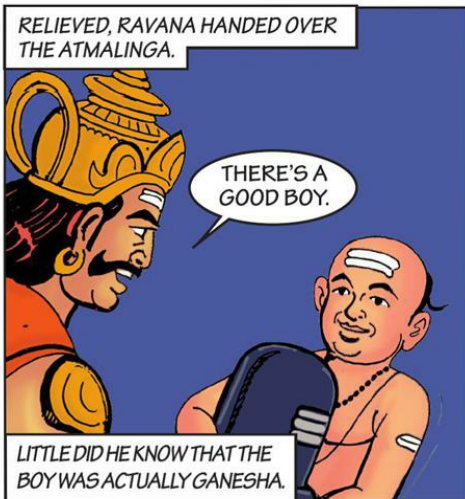
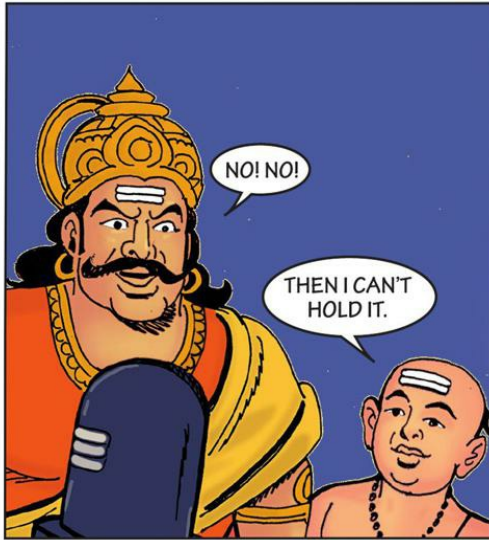




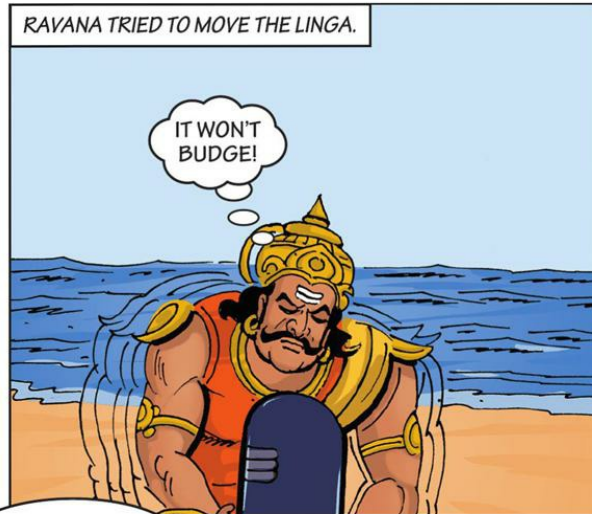
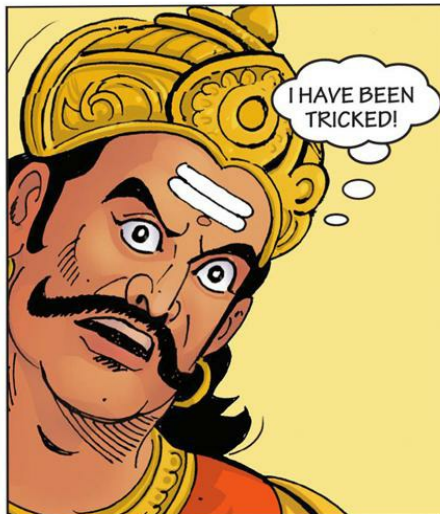
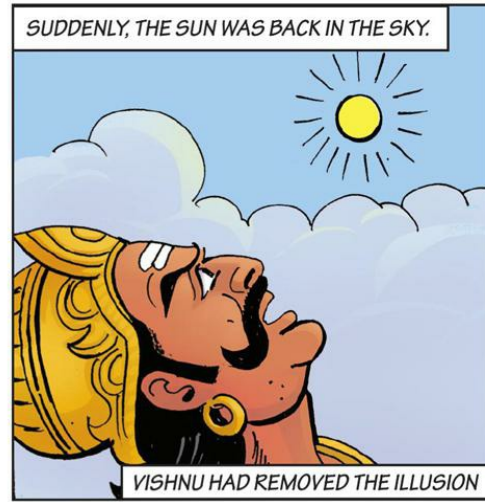
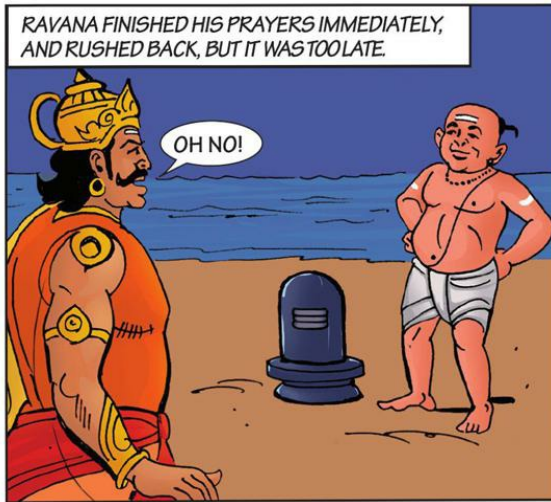






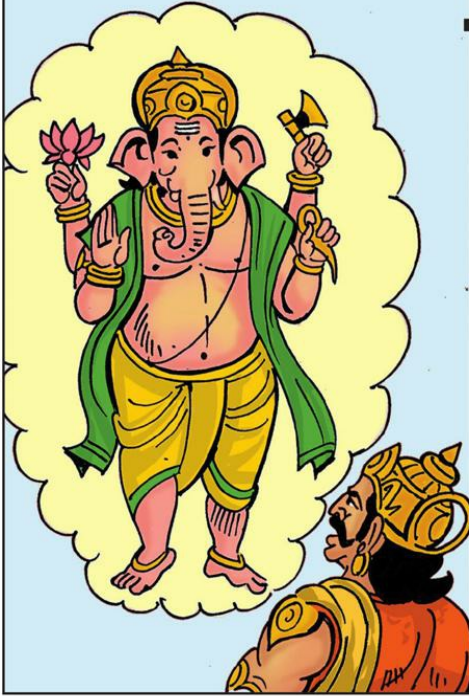




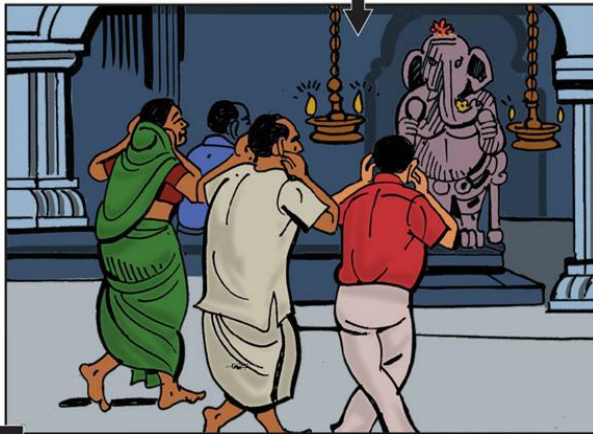




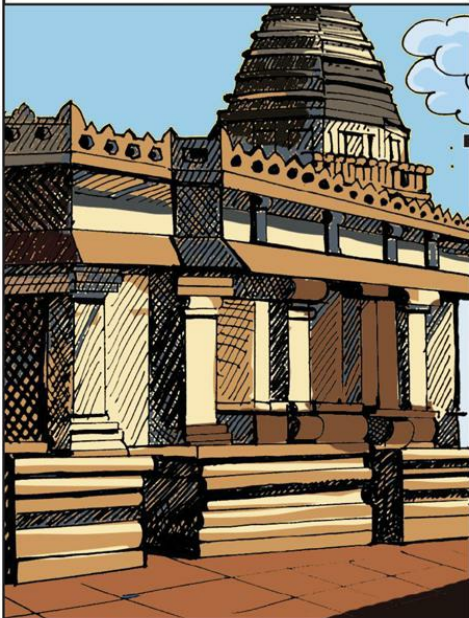
THEN GANESHA ASSUMED HIS TRUE FORM.



REALISING WHAT HE HAD DONE,  
RAVANA BOWED BEFORE GANESHA.



THE TEMPLE OVER THE ATMALINGA IS CALLED  
THE MAHABALESHWAR TEMPLE. 'MAHABALA'  
MEANS GREAT POWER AND 'ISHWAR' MEANS  
GOD.



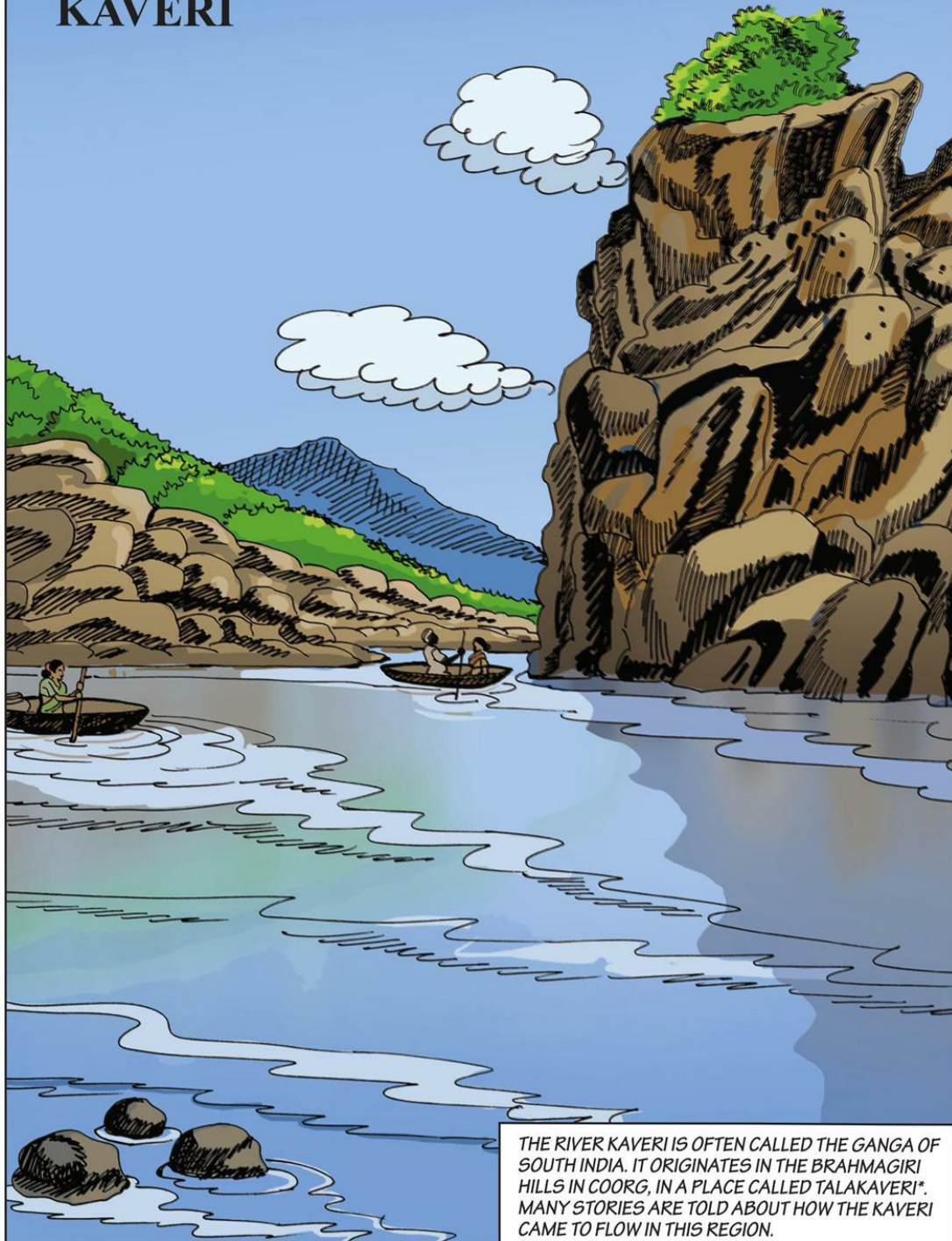
THE PLACE WHERE GANESHA PLACED THE ATMALINGA IS  
BELIEVED TO BE IN GOKARNA, KARNATAKA. THERE IS A TEMPLE  
BUILT AROUND THE ATMALINGA. NEXT TO IT IS A SHRINE OF  
GANESHA, WHERE THE IDOL HAS A DENT ON ITS FOREHEAD,  
SYMBOLISING THE INCIDENT.



THE GREAT FORCE EXERTED BY RAVANA ON THE LINGA IS SAID  
TO HAVE CHANGED ITS SHAPE. THE LINGA NOW RESEMBLES  
THE EAR OF A COW. IN FACT, THE NAME GOKARNA, COMES  
FROM THIS. 'GO' - COW AND 'KARNAM' - EAR.



# GANESHA RELEASES KAVERI

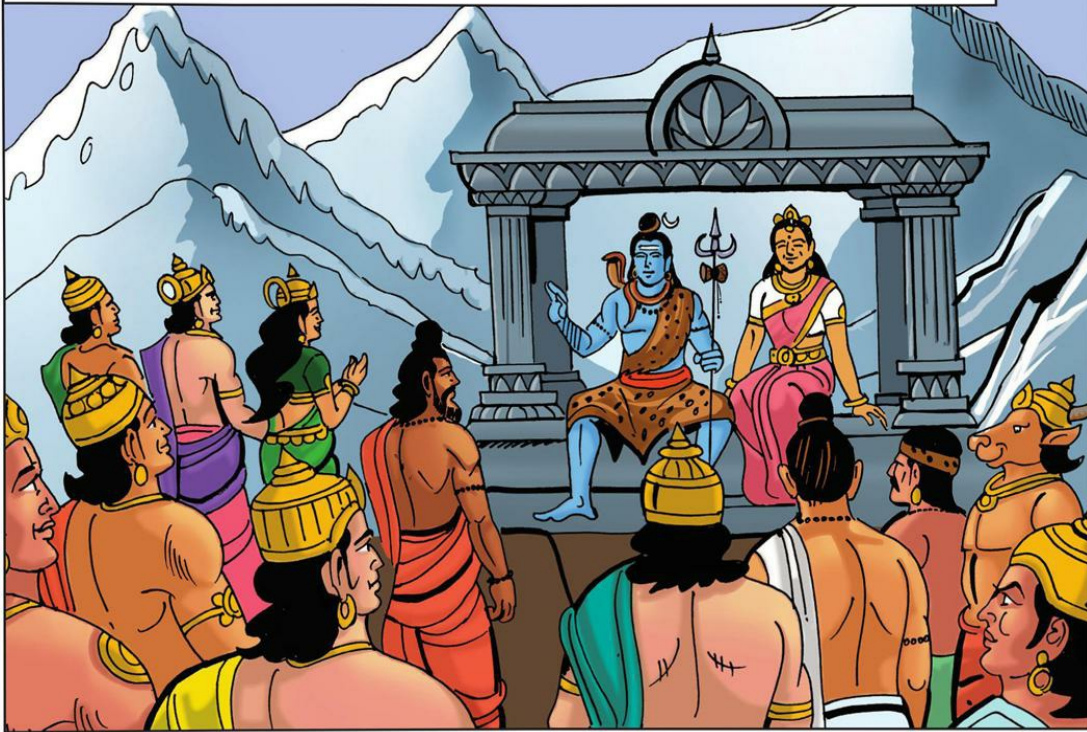


THE RIVER KAVERI IS OFTEN CALLED THE GANGA OF SOUTH INDIA. IT ORIGINATES IN THE BRAHMAHILL IN COORG, IN A PLACE CALLED TALAKAVERI\*. MANY STORIES ARE TOLD ABOUT HOW THE KAVERI CAME TO FLOW IN THIS REGION.

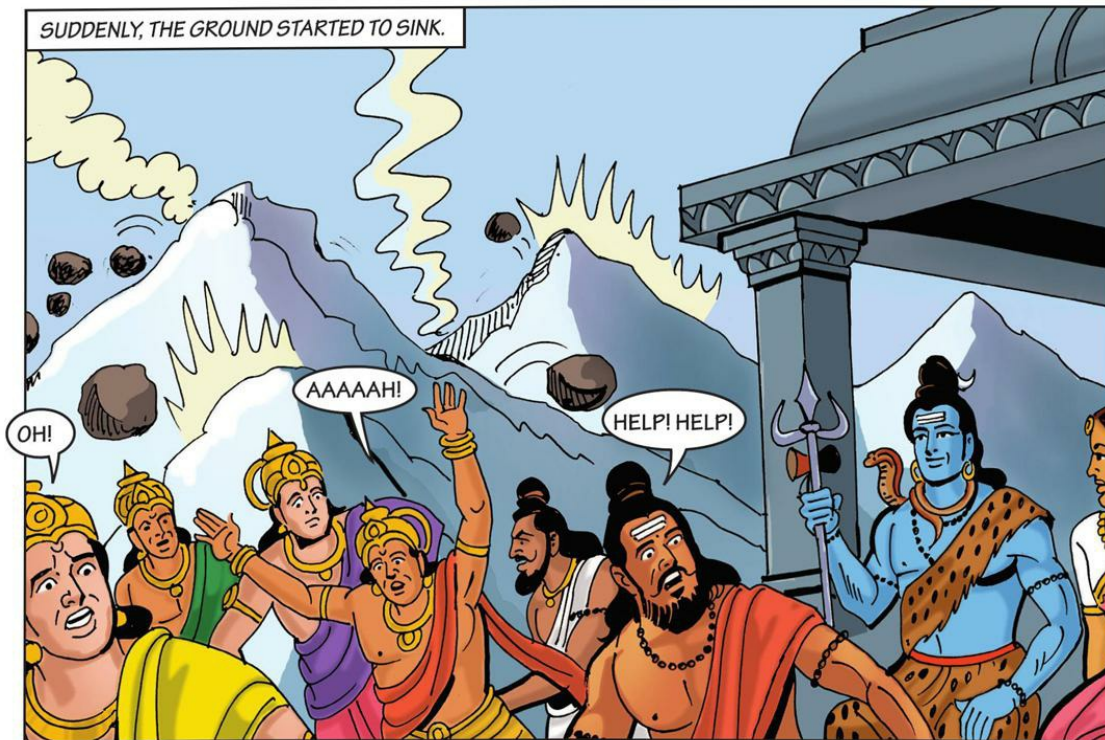
\* POINT OF ORIGIN OF THE KAVERI



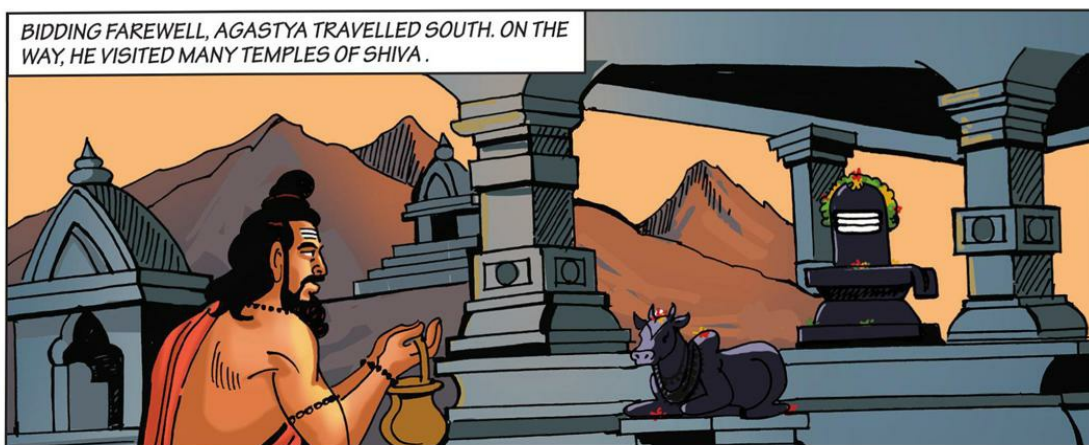
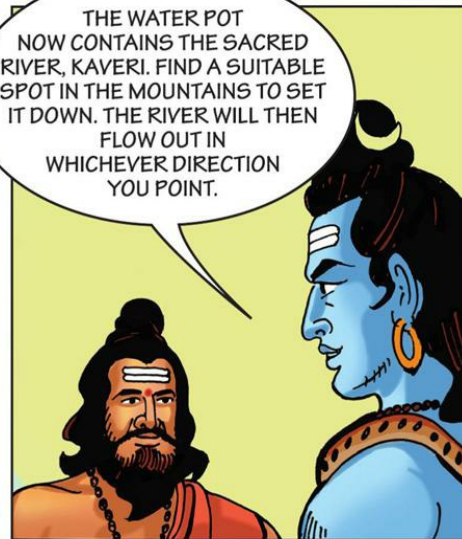
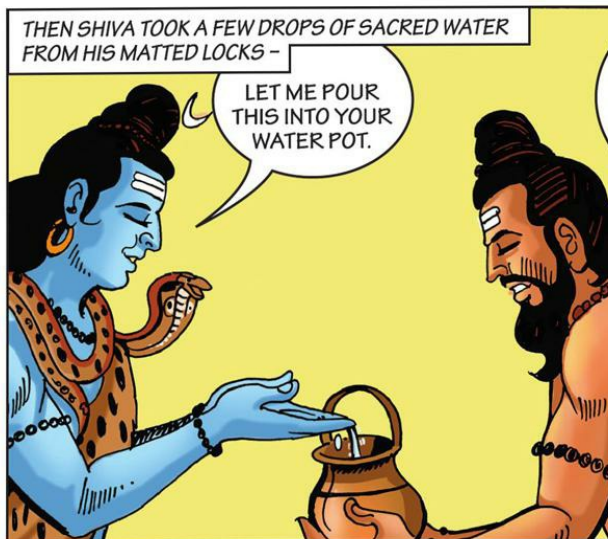
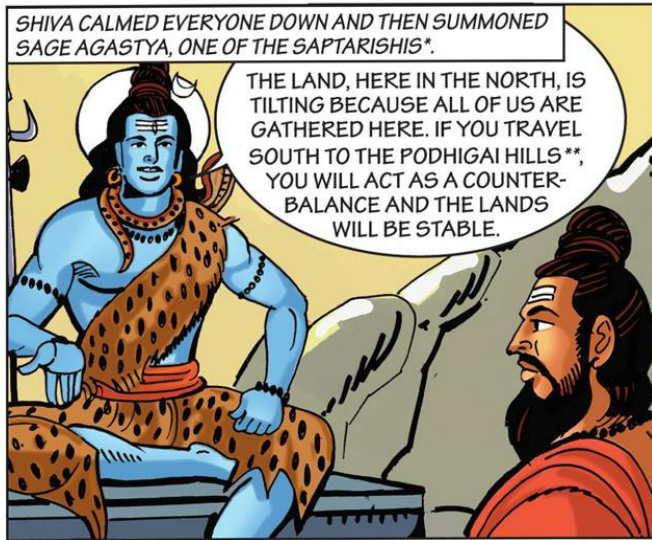
ONE SUCH STORY BEGINS AT THE WEDDING OF SHIVA AND PARVATI. IT WAS AN AUSPICIOUS OCCASION. ALL THE GODS, GODDESSES AND SAGES GATHERED AT MOUNT KAILASH, IN THE HIMALAYAS.



SUDDENLY, THE GROUND STARTED TO SINK.







\* THE SEVEN SAGES WHO WERE BORN FROM BRAHMA'S MIND  
\*\* IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE WESTERN GHATS



TIME PASSED AND AGASTYA WANDERED IN THE SOUTHERN LANDS, LOOKING FOR THE PERFECT PLACE TO SET DOWN KAVERI. IN THE MEANTIME, INDRA, KING OF THE GODS, WAS ATTACKED BY A POWERFUL DEMON NAMED SURAPADMAN.

SURAPADMAN  
HAS THE UPPER  
HAND. I MUST  
ESCAPE.



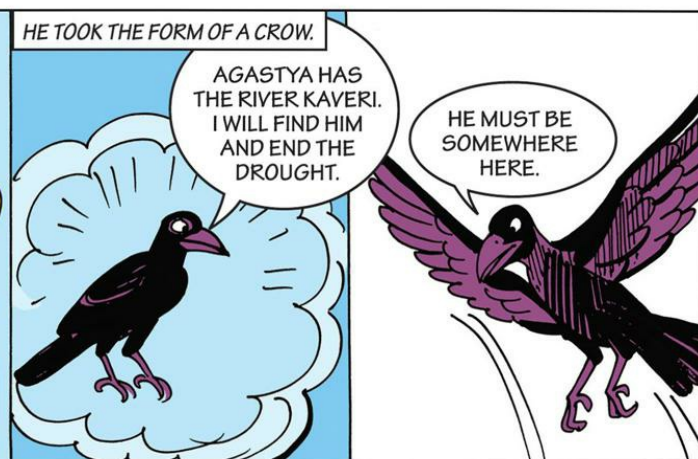
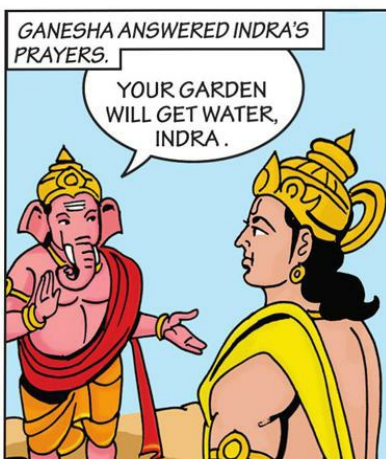
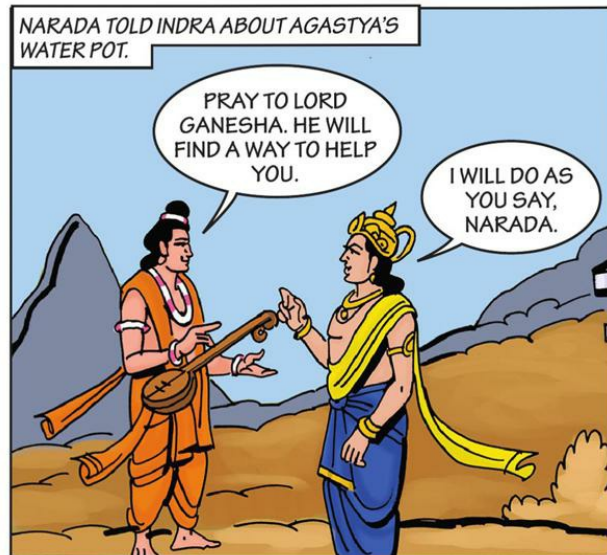
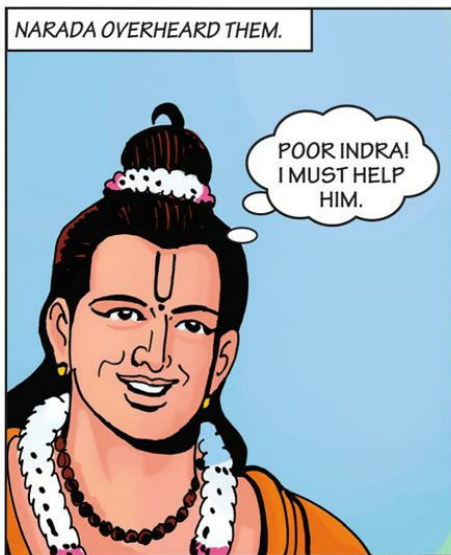
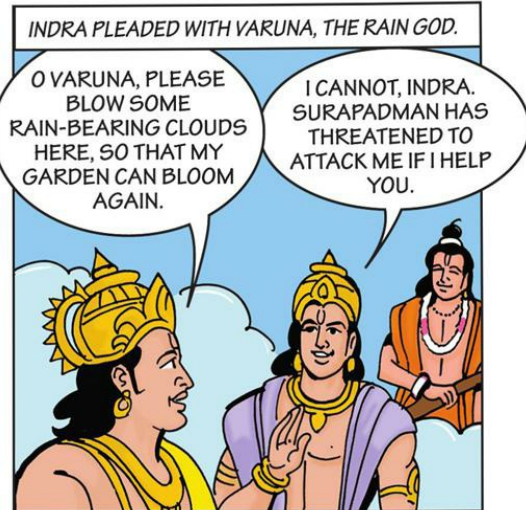
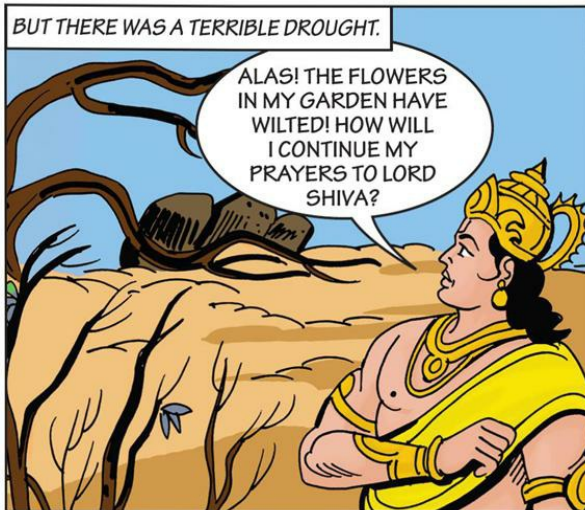
INDRA FLED TO THE EARTH. HE STOPPED AT A PLACE CALLED SIRGAZHI, WHERE HE CREATED A MAGNIFICENT GARDEN.



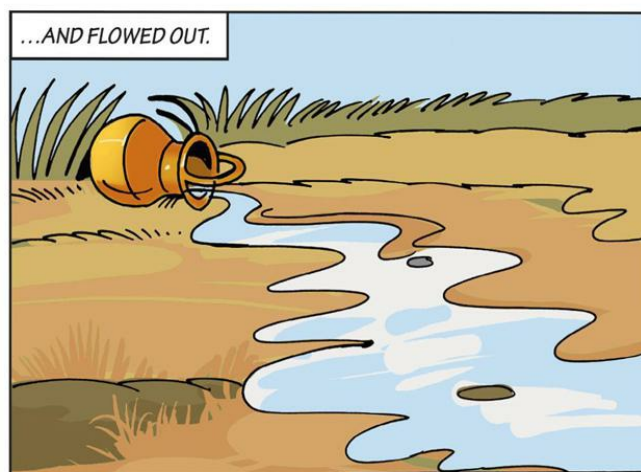
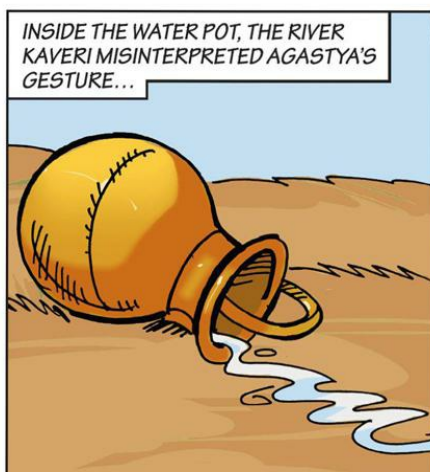
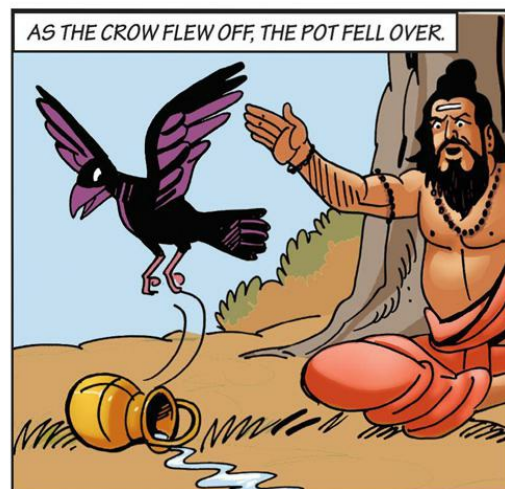
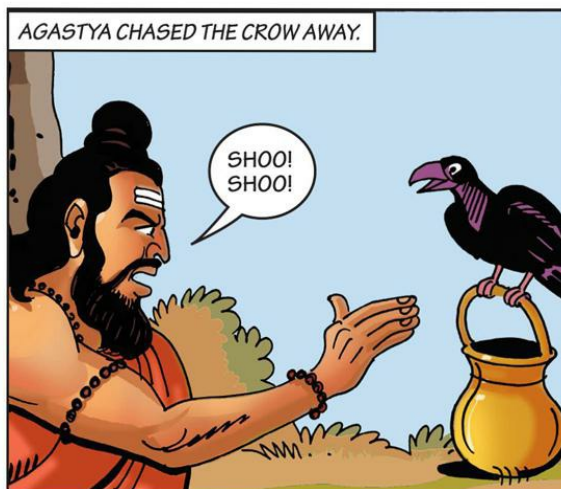
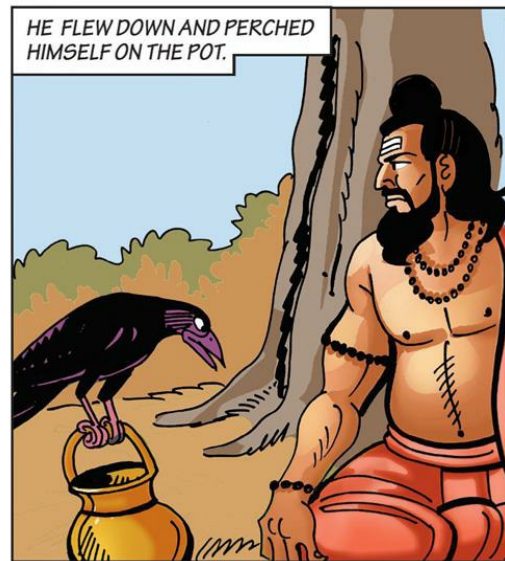
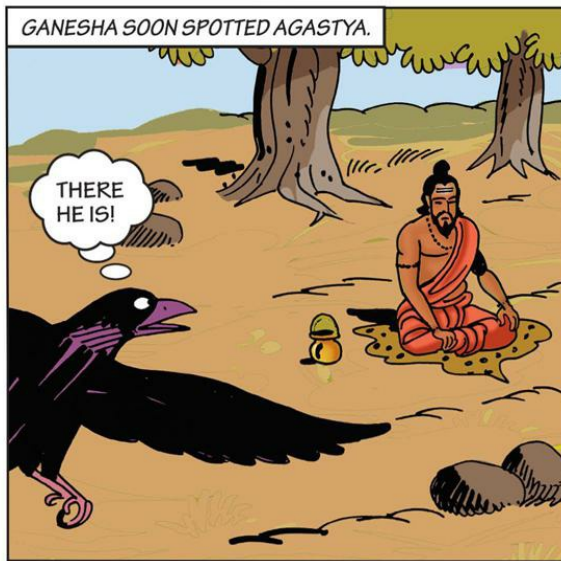
I WILL PROPITIATE  
SHIVA WITH FLOWERS  
FROM MY GARDEN  
AND ASK HIM FOR HELP  
AGAINST THE WICKED  
SURAPADMAN.



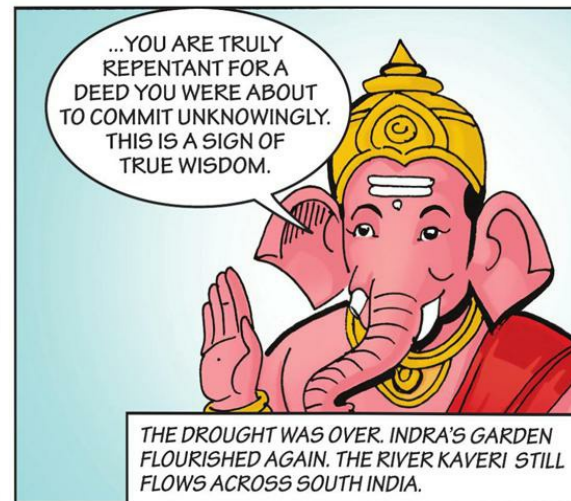
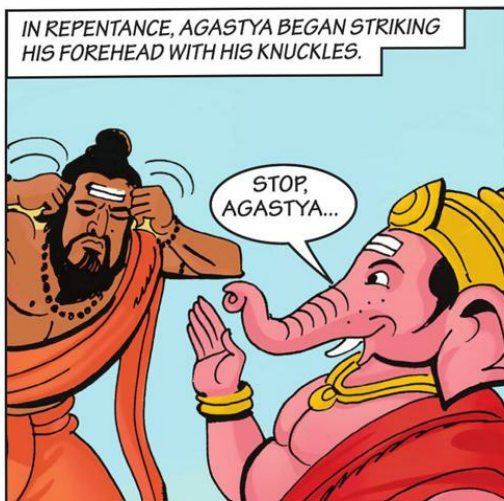
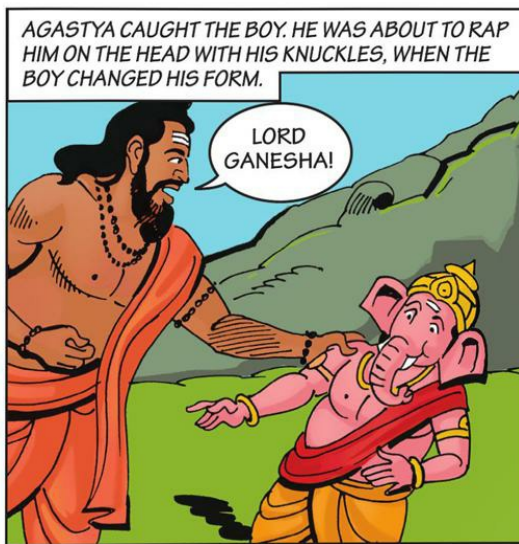
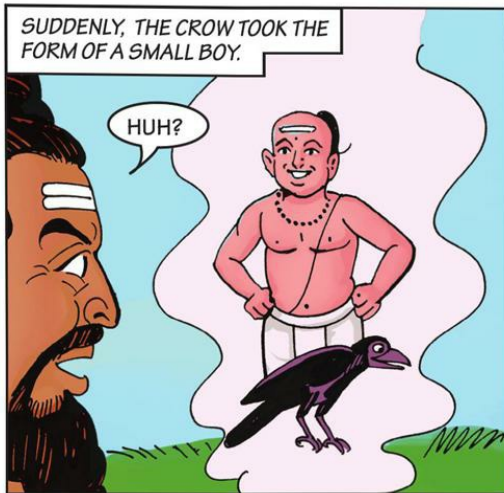








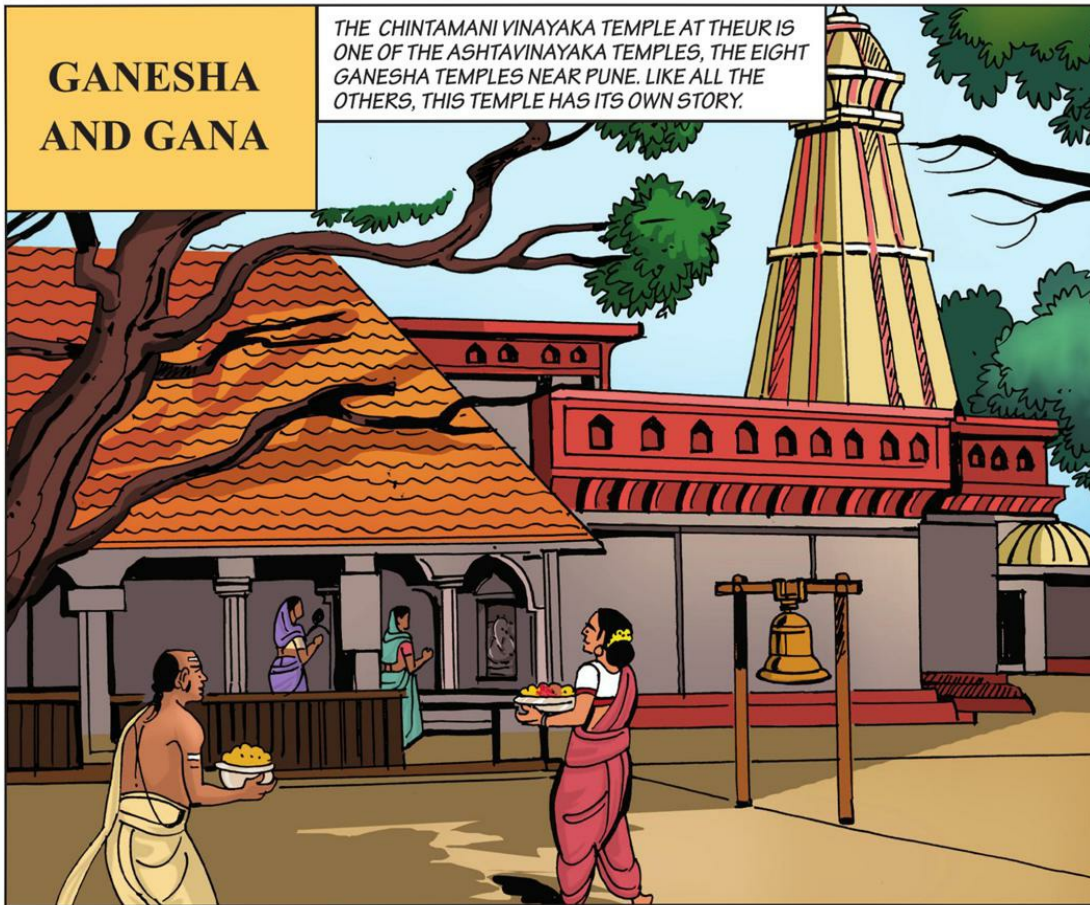




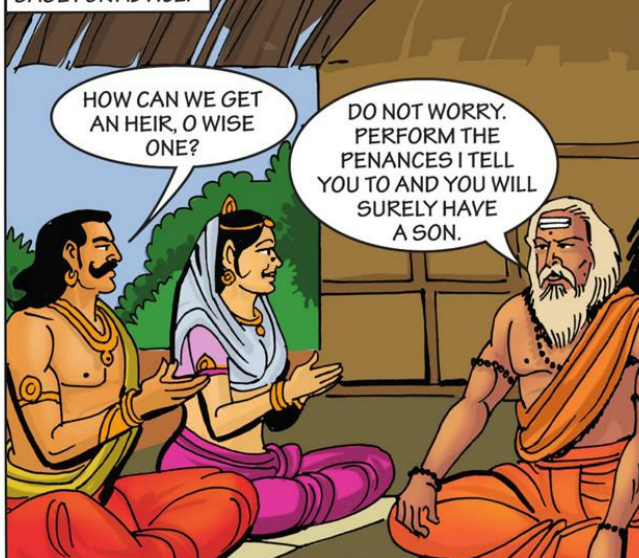


## GANESHA AND GANA

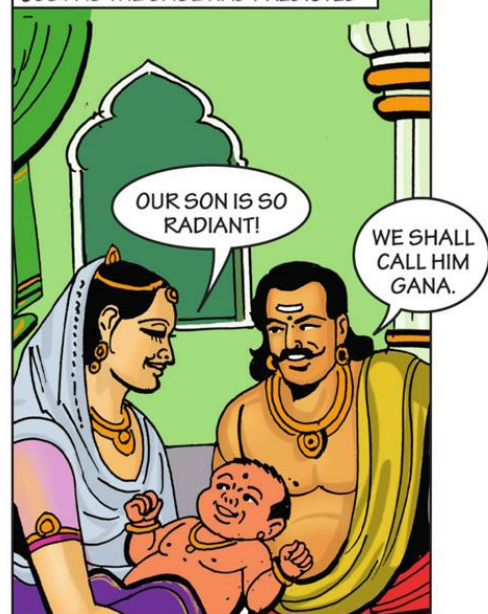
THE CHINTAMANI VINAYAKA TEMPLE AT THEUR IS ONE OF THE ASHTAVINAYAKA TEMPLES, THE EIGHT GANESHA TEMPLES NEAR PUNE. LIKE ALL THE OTHERS, THIS TEMPLE HAS ITS OWN STORY.



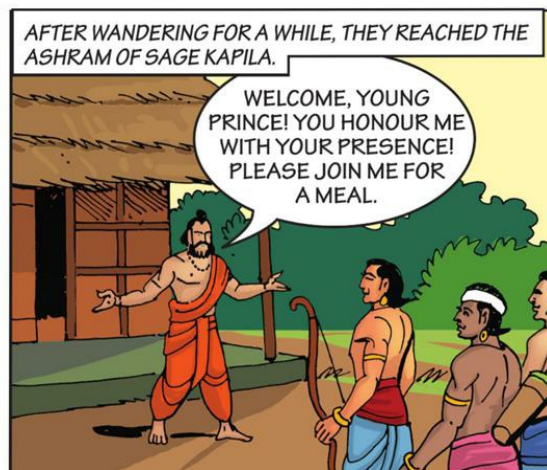
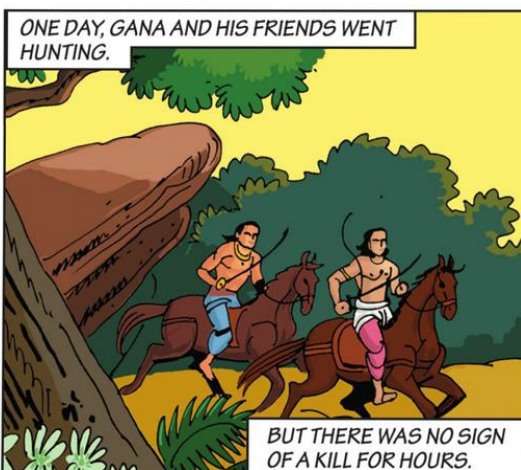
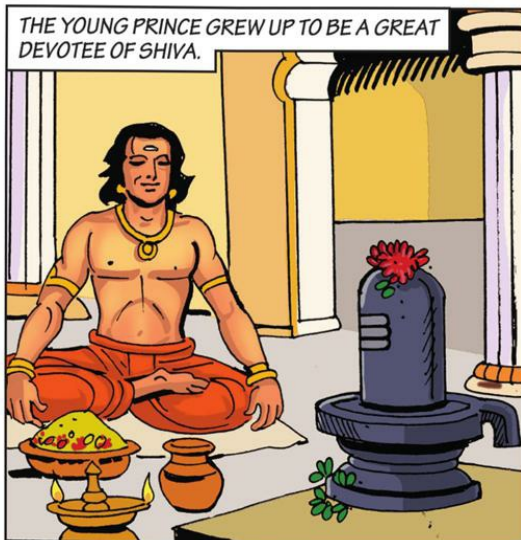
KING ABHISHEK AND HIS BEAUTIFUL QUEEN GUNAVATI, WERE FULL OF DESPAIR FOR THEY HAD NO CHILDREN. THEY WENT TO A SAGE FOR ADVICE.



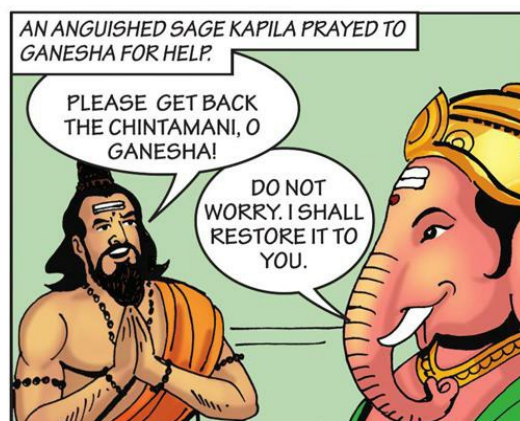
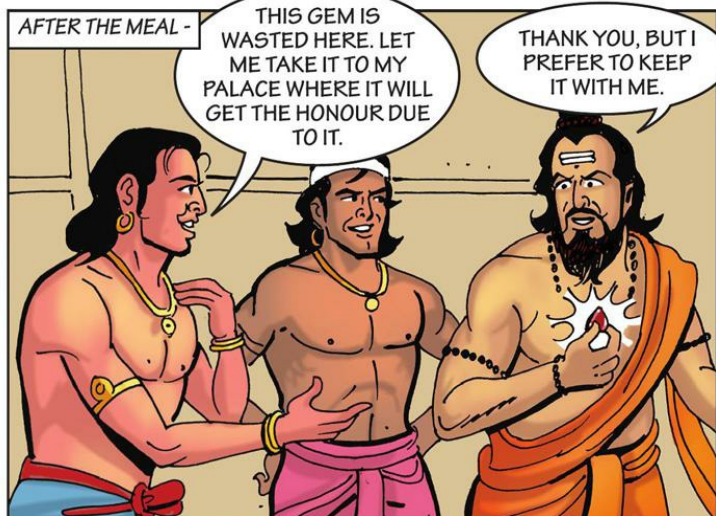
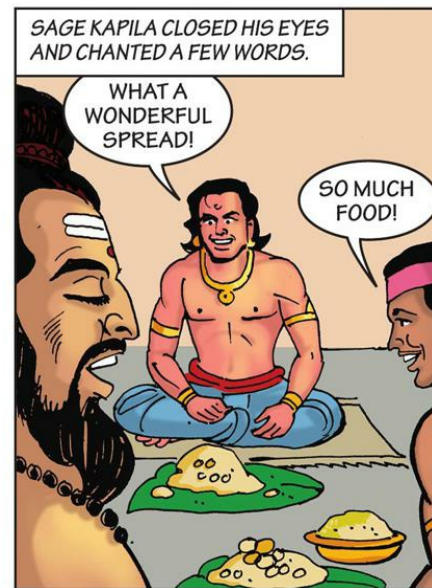
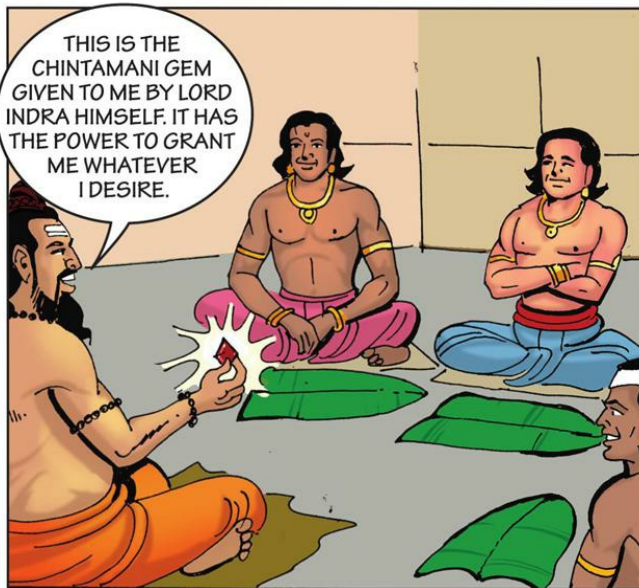
JUST AS THE SAGE HAD PREDICTED-



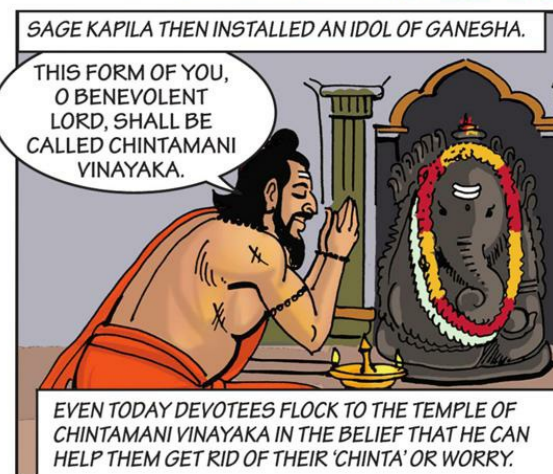
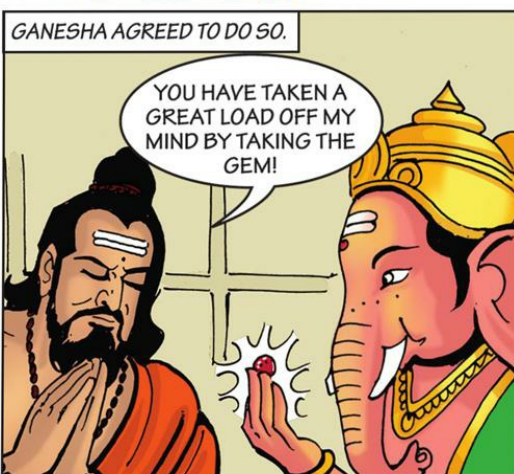
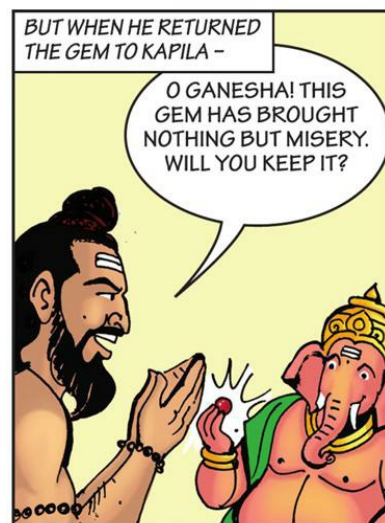
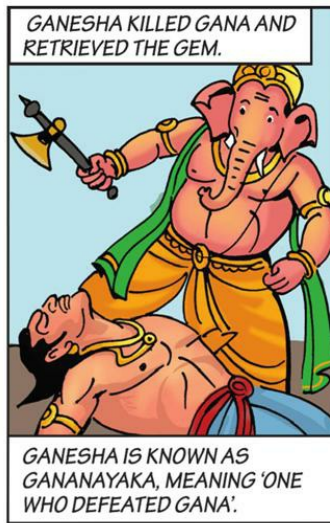














# THE LEGEND OF SHAMI AND MANDAR

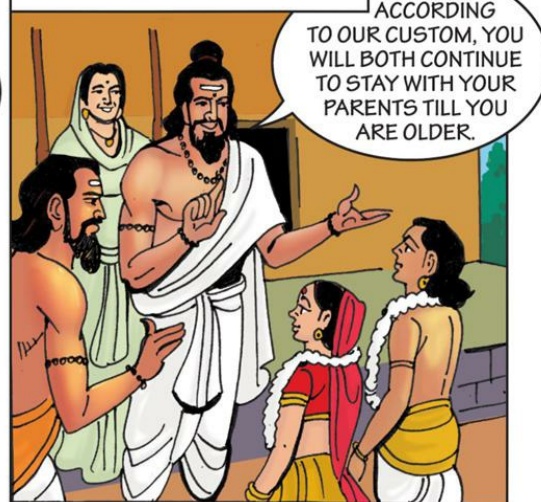
SAGE AURAVA WAS A LEARNED BRAHMIN, WHOSE FACE SHONE WITH THE RADIANCE OF KNOWLEDGE. TO HIM AND HIS WIFE WAS BORN A BEAUTIFUL DAUGHTER NAMED SHAMI.



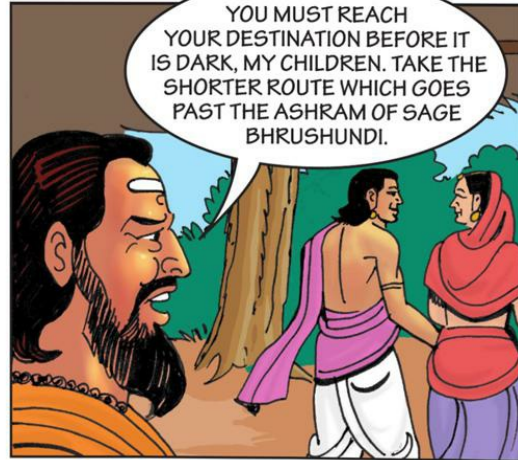
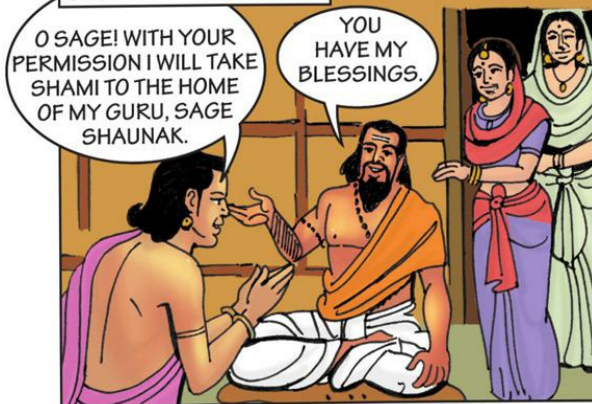
WHEN SHAMI WAS SEVEN YEARS OLD -



AFTER THE MARRIAGE CEREMONY -



AFTER SOME YEARS, MANDAR WENT TO SAGE AURAVA'S ASHRAM.

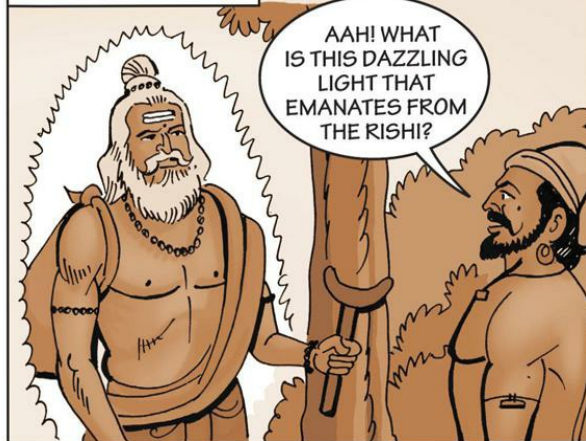




BHRUSHUNDI HAD EARLIER BEEN A FISHERMAN WHO HAD TURNED TO THIEVING. ONCE, HE STOPPED THE RISHI MUGDALA TO ROB HIM.



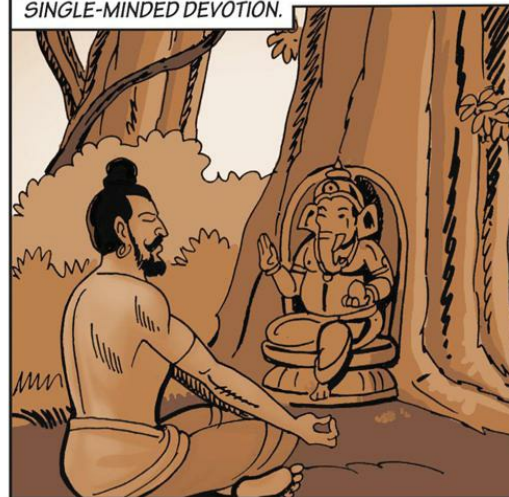
BUT THE SAGE DID NOT DO AS BHRUSHUNDI DEMANDED. INSTEAD -



BHRUSHUNDI REALISED HE WAS IN THE PRESENCE OF A GREAT POWER AND ASKED FOR FORGIVENESS.



BHRUSHUNDI TOOK THE SAGE'S ADVICE TO HEART AND STARTED WORSHIPPING GANESHA WITH SINGLE-MINDED DEVOTION.

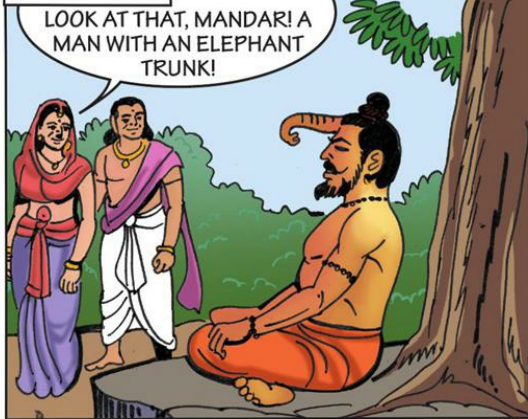


GANESHA WAS VERY PLEASED AND BESTOWED A SINGULAR HONOUR ON HIM...

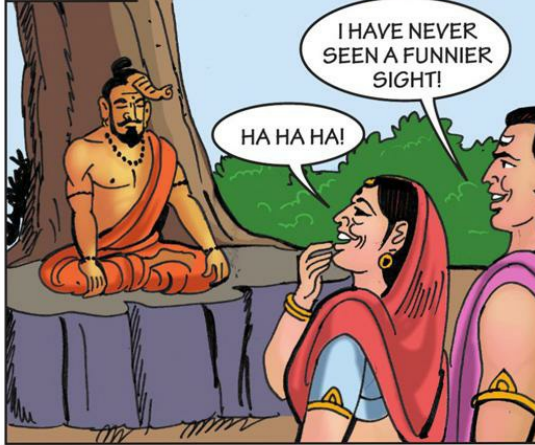




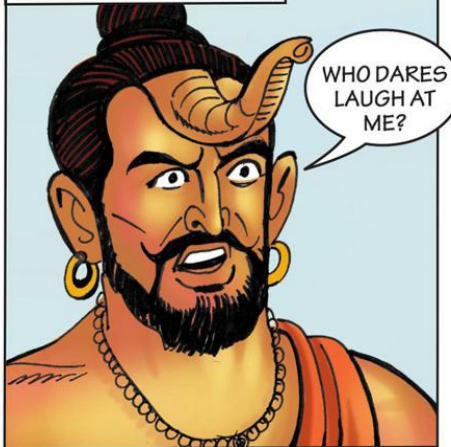
ON THEIR WAY TO SAGE SHAUNAK'S ASHRAM, SHAMI AND MANDAR PASSED BHRUSHUNDI MEDITATING UNDER A TREE.



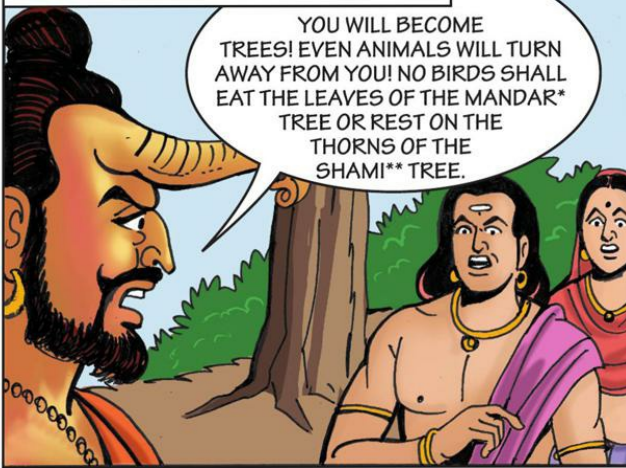
THE TWO BURST INTO UNCONTROLLABLE LAUGHTER.



BHRUSHUNDI'S EYES FLEW OPEN. THEY BLAZED WITH ANGER.



IN HIS RAGE, HE CURSED THE YOUNG COUPLE.



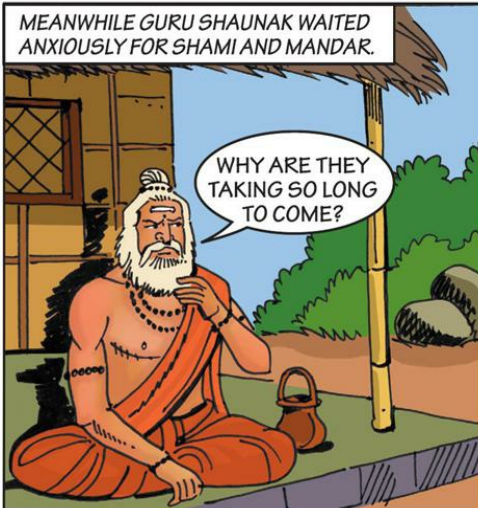
\*THE INDIAN CORAL TREE  
\*\* INDIAN MESQUITE TREE



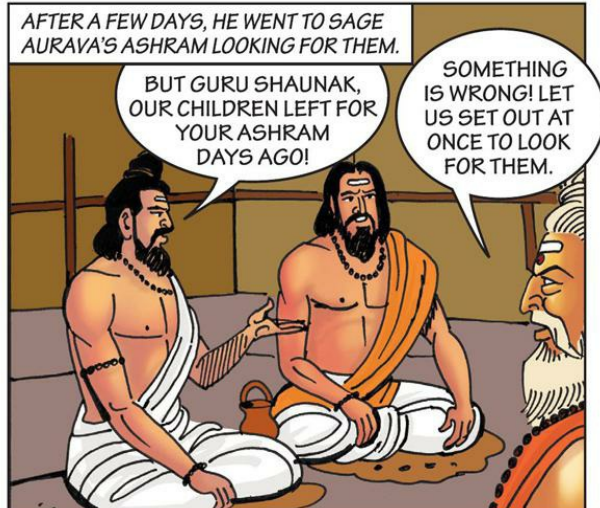
BHRUSHUNDI STORMED OFF, LEAVING THE BEAUTIFUL SHAMI AND HER HANDSOME HUSBAND, MANDAR, ROOTED TO THE SPOT AS TREES.



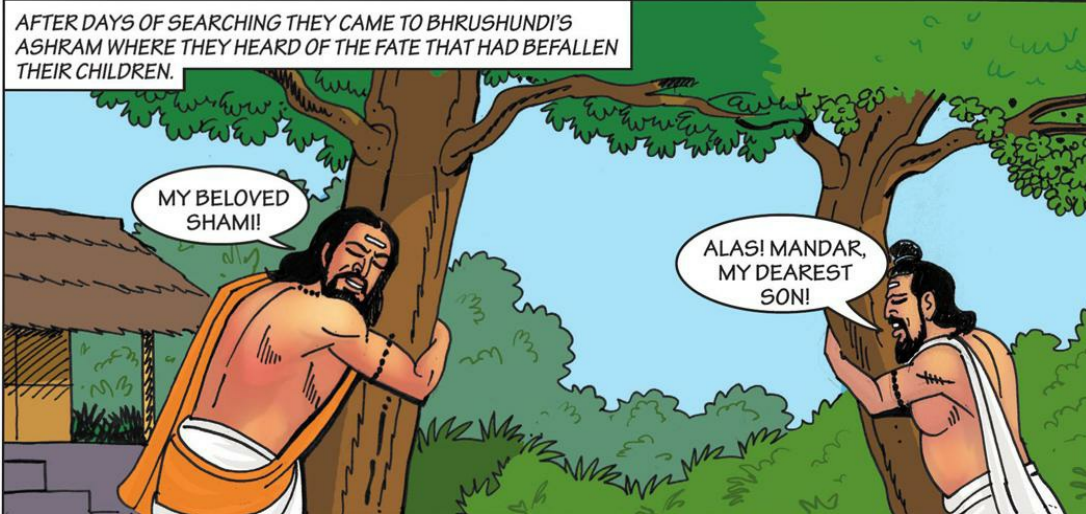
MEANWHILE GURU SHAUNAK WAITED ANXIOUSLY FOR SHAMI AND MANDAR.



AFTER A FEW DAYS, HE WENT TO SAGE AURAVA'S ASHRAM LOOKING FOR THEM.

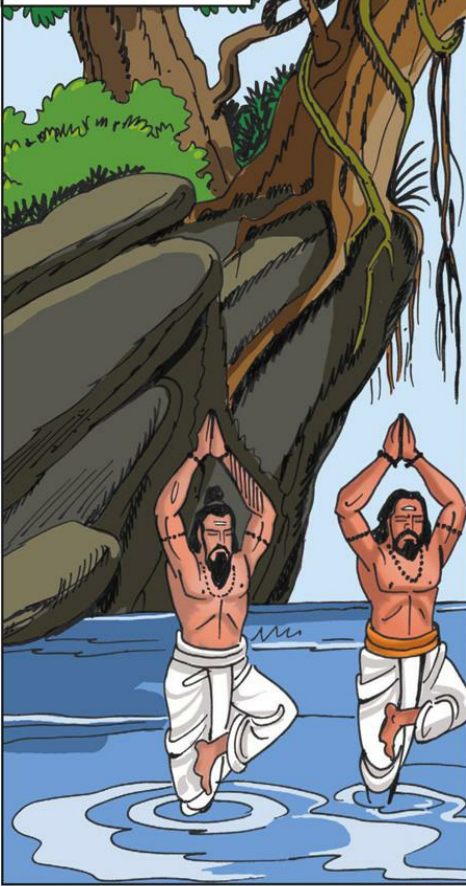


AFTER DAYS OF SEARCHING THEY CAME TO BHRUSHUNDI'S ASHRAM WHERE THEY HEARD OF THE FATE THAT HAD BEFALLEN THEIR CHILDREN.





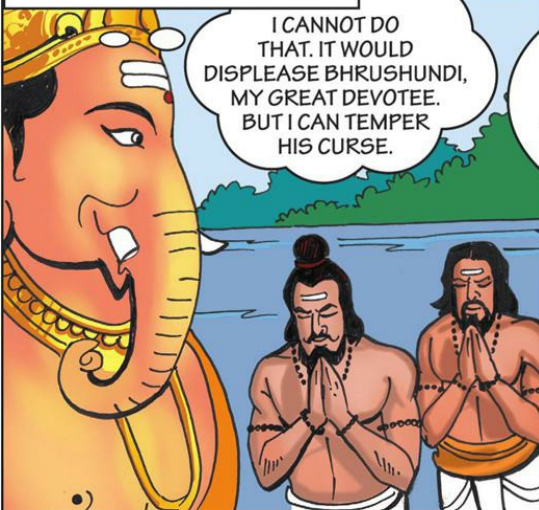
THE TWO FATHERS DECIDED TO APPEAL TO GANESHA FOR HELP AND BEGAN PRACTISING TERRIBLE AUSTERITIES.



AT LAST, GANESHA APPEARED BEFORE THEM IN AN IMPOSING FORM.



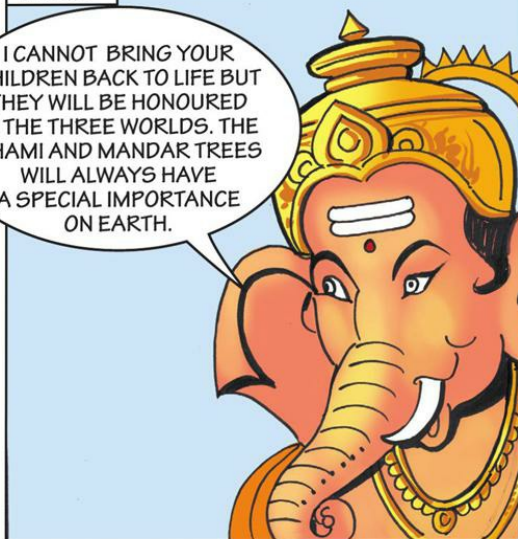
THEY BEGGED GANESHA TO RESTORE THEIR CHILDREN. BUT GANESHA WAS IN A DILEMMA.



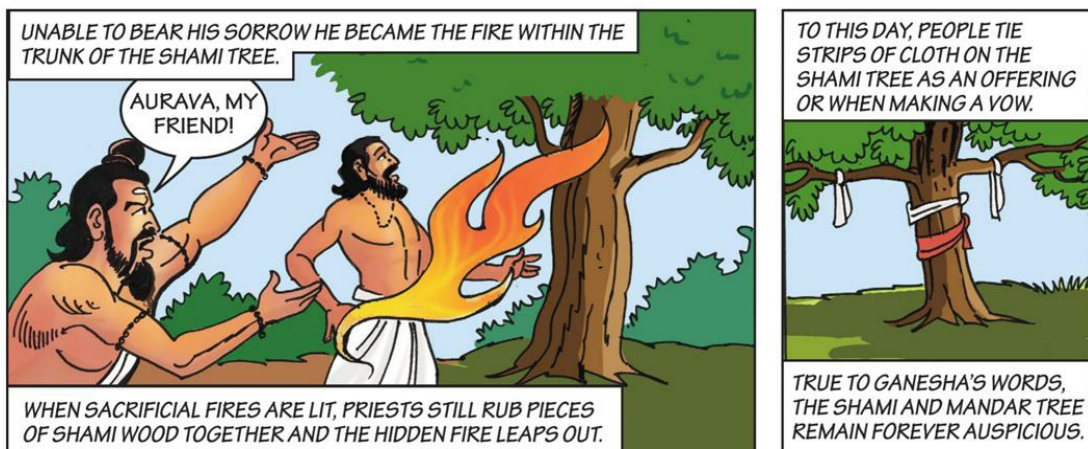
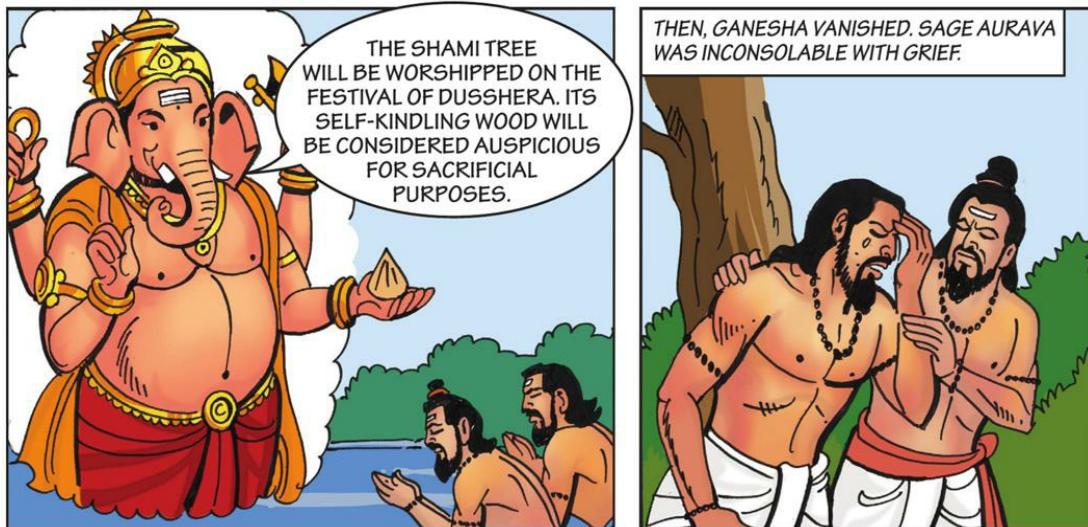
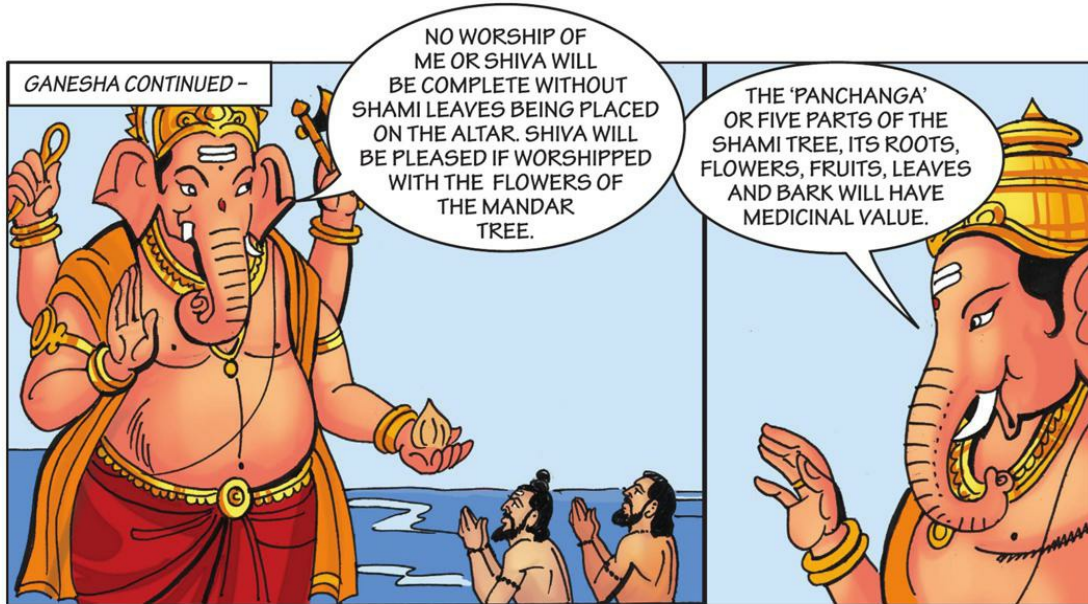
I CANNOT DO THAT. IT WOULD DISPLEASE BHRUSHUNDI, MY GREAT DEVOTEE. BUT I CAN TEMPER HIS CURSE.

FINALLY -

I CANNOT BRING YOUR CHILDREN BACK TO LIFE BUT THEY WILL BE HONOURED IN THE THREE WORLDS. THE SHAMI AND MANDAR TREES WILL ALWAYS HAVE A SPECIAL IMPORTANCE ON EARTH.









## WHICH OF THE ACKs HAVE YOU STILL NOT READ?

<p><b>EPICS AND MYTHOLOGY</b>  <i>Best known stories from the Epics and the Puranas</i></p> <p>Abhimanyu  Agastya  Andhaka  Aniruddha  Aruni And Uttanka  Ashwini Kumars  Ayyappan  Bahubali  Bhanumati  Bheema And Hanuman  Bheeshma  Chandrabhasa  Dasharatha  Dhruva And Ashtavakra  Draupadi  Drona  Elephanta  Gandhari  Ganesha  Ganesha And The Moon  Ganga  Garuda  Ghatotkacha  Hanuman  Hanuman To The Rescue  Harischandra  Heroes Of Hampi  Indra And Shachi  Indra And Shibi  Indra And Vritra  Jagannatha Of Puri  Jayadratha  Kacha And Devayani  Karna  Karttikeya  Konark  Krishna  Krishna And Jarasandha  Krishna And Narakasura  Krishna And Rukmini  Krishna And Shishupala  Krishna And The False  Vaasudeva  Kubera  Kumbhakarna  Mahabharata  Mahiravana  Nachiketa  Nahusha  Nala Damayanti  Pareekshit  Parashurama  Prabhavati  Pradyumna  Prahlad  Purushottam Dev And  Padmavati  Rama  Ravana Humbled  Saraswati  Sati And Shiva  Savitri  Shiva Parvati  Stories Of Creation  Subhadra  Sudama  Sukanya  Surya  Tales From The  Upanishads  Tales Of Arjuna  Tales Of Balarama  Tales Of Durga  Tales Of Indra  Tales Of Narada</p>	<p>Tales Of Shiva  Tales Of Vishnu  Tales Of Yudhishtira  Tapati  Thanjavur  The Churning Of The  Ocean  The Gita  The Golden Mongoose  The King In  A Parrot's Body  The Lord Of Lanka  The Pandava Princes  The Pandavas In Hiding  The Parijata Tree  The Sons Of Rama  The Syamantaka Gem  Tirupati  Tripura  Uloopi  Vaishno Devi  Vali  Vishwamitra  Yayati</p> <p><b>VISIONARIES</b>  <i>Inspiring tales of thinkers, social reformers and nation builders</i></p> <p>Adi Shankara  Albert Einstein  Anant Pai  Babasaheb Ambedkar  Basaveshwara  Buddha  Chaitanya Mahaprabhu  Chanakya  Chokha Mela  Dayananda  Deshbandhu  Chittaranjan Das  Eknath  Fa Hien  Ghanshyamdas Birla  Guru Arjan  Guru Gobind Singh  Guru Har Gobind  Guru Nanak  Guru Tegh Bahadur  Hiuen Tsang  J.R.D Tata  Jagadis Chandra Bose  Jamsetji Tata  Jawaharlal Nehru  Jayaprakash Narayan  Jim Corbett  Jnaneshwar  Kabir  Kalidasa  Lal Bahadur Shastri  Lokmanya Tilak  M. S. Subbulakshmi  Madhvacharya  Mahavira  Marie And Pierre Curie  Megasthenes  Mirabai  Mother Teresa  Narayan Guru  Rabindranath Tagore  Ram Shastri  Ramana Maharshi  Ramanuja  Salim Ali  Shankar Dev  Soordas  Sri. Ramakrishna  Srinivasa Ramanujan  Subramania Bharati</p>	<p>Swami Chinmayananda  Swami Pranavananda  Tales Of Sai Baba  Tansen  Tulsidas  Vidyasagar  Vivekananda  Zarathushtra</p> <p><b>INDIAN CLASSICS</b>  <i>Enchanting tales from Indian literature</i></p> <p>Ananda Math  Ancestors Of Rama  Devi Choudhurani  Durgesh Nandini  Kadambari  Kannagi  Kapala Kundala  Kumanan  Maarthaanda Varma  Malavika  Manonmani  Prince Jivaka  Raj Singh  Ratnavali  Shakuntala  The Adventures Of  Pratapana  The Elusive Kaka  Udayana  Urvashi  Vasantasena  Vasavadatta  Veer Dhaval</p> <p><b>FABLES AND HUMOUR</b>  <i>Evergreen folktales, legends and tales of wisdom and humour</i></p> <p>A Bag Of Gold Coins  Amrapali  Andher Nagari  Angulimala  Bikal The Terrible  <b>BIRBAL STORIES</b>  Birbal The Clever  Birbal The Genius  Birbal The Just  Birbal The Wise  Birbal The Witty  Birbal To The Rescue  The Inimitable Birbal  Chandralalal  Dhola And Maru  Friends And Foes  Gopal And The Cowherd  Gopal The Jester  <b>HITOPADESHA TALES</b>  Choice Of Friends  How Friends Are Parted  Hothal  <b>JATAKA TALES</b>  Battle Of Wits  Bird Stories  Deer Stories  Elephant Stories  Jackal Stories  Monkey Stories  Nandi Vishala  Stories Of Courage  Stories Of Wisdom  Tales Of Misers  The Deadly Feast  The Giant And  The Dwarf  The Hidden Treasure  The Magic Chant</p>	<p>The Mouse Merchant  True Friends  Kanwal And Kehar  Kesari The Flying Thief  King Kusha  Manduka</p> <p><b>PANCHATANTRA TALES</b>  Crows And Owls  How The Jackal Ate  The Elephant  The Brahmin And  The Goat  The Dullard  The Greedy Mother-in-law  The Jackal And  The Wardrum  Raman Of Tenali  Raman The Matchless Wit  Sahasramalla  Sakshi Gopal  Satwant Kaur  Sharan Kaur  Shrenik  Sukhu And Dukhu  Sundari  Tales Of Maryada Rama  The Acrobat  The Adventures  Of Agad Datta  The Adventures Of  Baddu And Chhotu  The Bridegroom's Ring  The Celestial Necklace  The Clever Dancer  The Cowherd Of Alawi  The Fearless Boy  The Fool's Disciples  The Golden Sand  The Green Demon  The Unhappy Tiger  The Learned Pandit  The Lost Prince  The Magic Grove  The Miraculous Conch  The Mystery Of  The Missing Gift  The Pandit And The  Milkmaid  The Pig And The Dog  The Pious Cat  The Priceless Gem  The Prince And  The Magician  The Prophecy  The Queen's Necklace  The Rainbow Prince  The Secret Of The  Talking Bird  The Silent Teacher  The Tiger And The  Woodpecker  The Tiger Eater  Thugsen  Vidyut Chora  Vikramaditya's Throne</p> <p><b>BRAVEHEARTS</b>  <i>Stirring tales of brave men and women of India</i></p> <p>A Nation Awakes  Ahilyabai Holkar  Ajatashatru  Akbar  Amar Singh Rathor  Ashoka  Babur  Bagha Jatin  Bajirao I</p>	<p>Baladitya And  Yashodharma  Balban  Banda Bahadur  Bappa Rawal  Beni Madho And Pir Ali  Bhagat Singh  Bidhi Chand  Bimbisara  Chand Bibi  Chandra Shekhar Azad  Chandragupta Maurya  Chennamma Of Keladi  Dara Shukho And  Aurangzeb  Durgadas  Ellora Caves  Hakka And Bukka  Hari Singh Nalwa  Harsha  Hemu  Humayun  Jahangir  Jallianwala Bagh  Kalpana Chawla  Kochunni  Krishnadeva Raya  Kunwar Singh  Lachit Barphukan  Lalitaditya  Mangal Pande  Noor Jahan  Padmini  Panna And Hadi Rani  Paurava And Alexander  Prithviraj Chauhan  Raja Bhoja  Raja Raja Chola  Rana Kumbha  Rana Pratap  Rana Sanga  Rani Abbakka  Rani Durgavati  Rani Of Jhansi  Ranjit Singh  Rash Bihari Bose  Roopmati  Sambhaji  Samudra Gupta  Sea Route To India  Shah Jahan  Shalivahana  Shantala  Sher Shah  Shivaji  Subhas Chandra Bose  Sultana Razia  Surya Sen  Tachcholi Othenan  Tales Of Shivaji  Tanaji  Tenzing Norgay  The Historic City Of Delhi  The Rani Of Kittur  Tipu Sultan  Veer Hammir  Veer Savarkar  Velu Thampi  Vikramaditya</p> <p><b>CONTEMPORARY CLASSICS</b>  <i>(New Category)  The best of modern Indian literature</i></p> <p>The Blue Umbrella</p>
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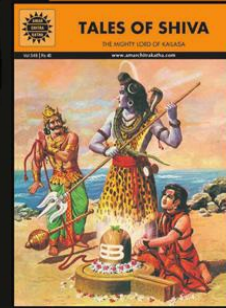
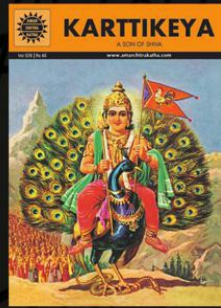
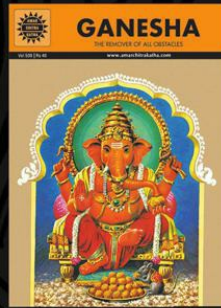
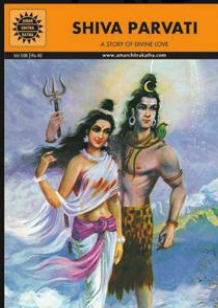
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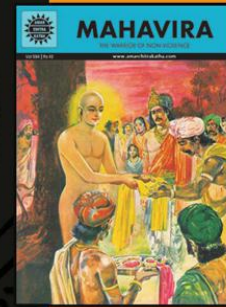
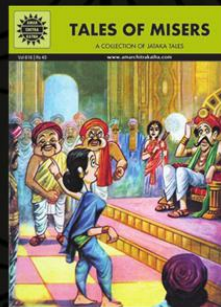
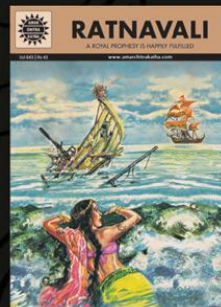
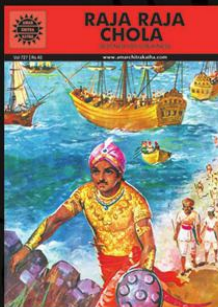
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